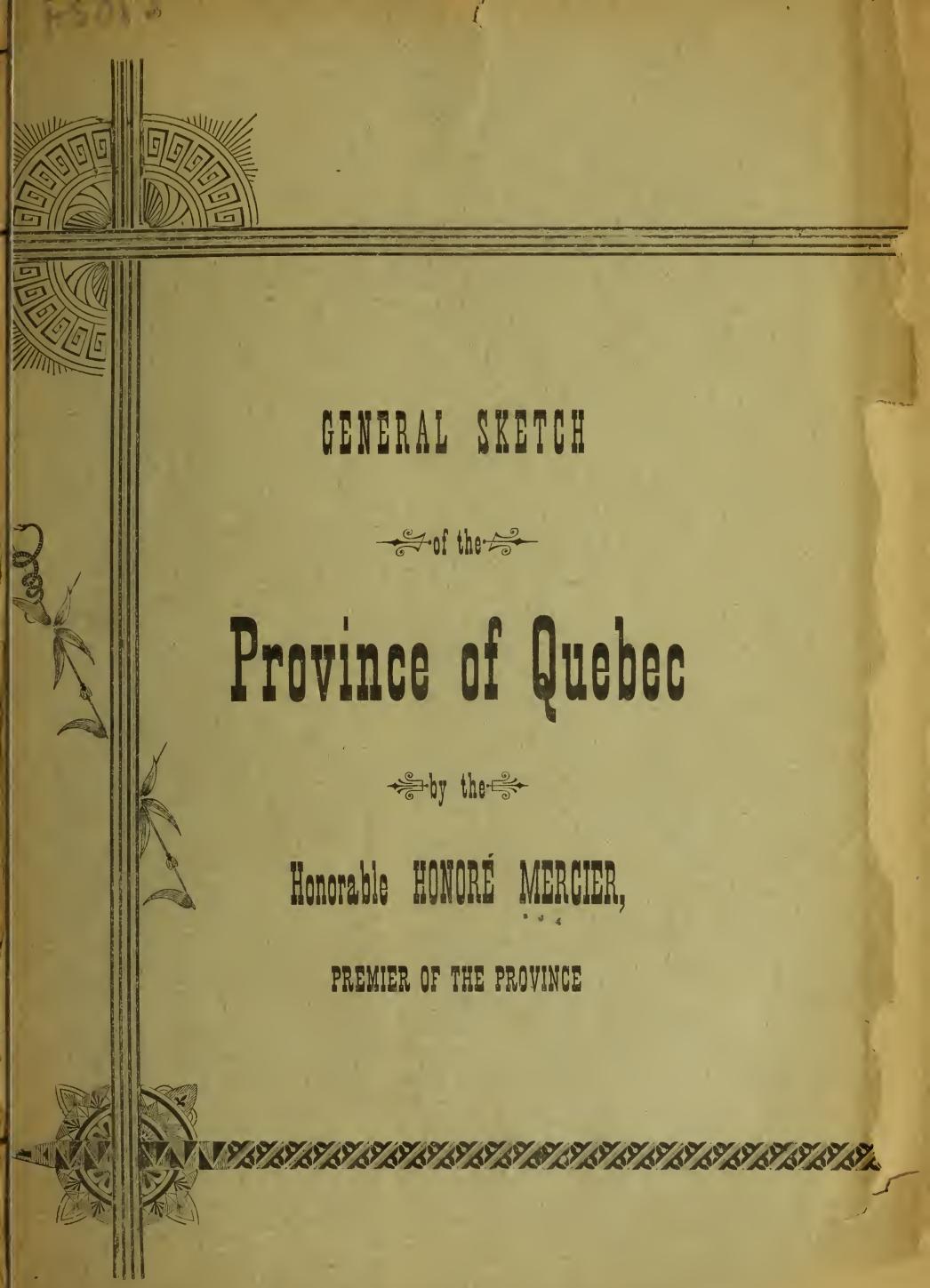


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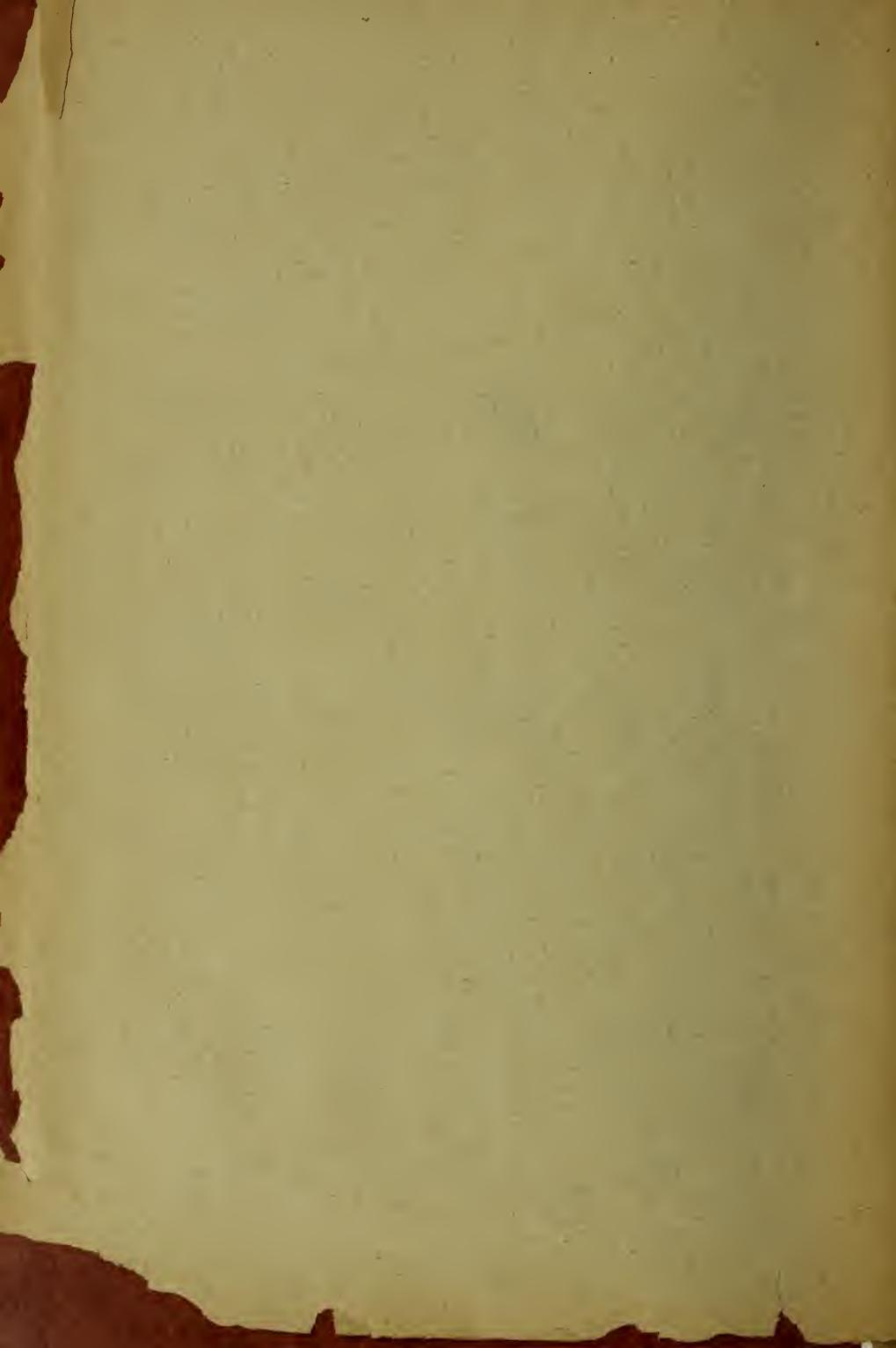
of the

Province of Quebec

by the

Honorable HONORÉ MERCIER,

PREMIER OF THE PROVINCE



GENERAL SKETCH

OF THE

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC

BY

HON. HONORE MERCIER

PREMIER OF THE PROVINCE

QUEBEC :

—
1889

THE PROVINCE OF QUEBEC

I

HISTORICAL SKETCH.

The Province of Quebec was the cradle of French colonization in America. After the discovery of Canada by Jacques-Cartier in 1534 and the unsuccessful attempts of Roberval and the Marquis de la Roche to effect settlements in America, the French founded the colony of Port-Royal, which, for various reasons, developed but slightly. Champlain, who was at first employed by de Mouts at Port-Royal, abandoned that enterprise to devote his energies to the establishment of Quebec, the centre of the great colonizing movement out of which sprang New France. At the close of the XVIIth century, the French possessions in America extended to the Gulf of Mexico and embraced the finest and richest portion of the new continent, that is to say, the whole of Canada and more than two-thirds of the present territory of the United States.

The colony founded by Champlain in 1608 has passed through many vicissitudes. Exploited by monopolists and decimated by almost continual wars with the Indians or the New England colonies, its population were called upon to display unusual energy and valor to maintain down to 1759 the honor of the French flag in America.

Administrative System.

Down to 1663, New France was under the almost exclusive control of the trading companies, to whom it was handed over by the king. The Governor devoted himself especially to military matters, so that the internal administration was carried on chiefly by the officers named by the companies, and, from 1647, by a council in which the inhabitants of the country had a certain number of representatives. In 1663, Louis XIV resumed the control of affairs and of the government of the colony, to which he granted a constitution. The Sovereign Council was charged with the administration of justice and constituted, a court of last resort, and shortly afterwards the *prévôté* of Quebec and the royal jurisdictions of Three[Rivers and Montreal, in addition to the seigniorial courts,

completed the judicial organization. The Governor represented the royal authority and devoted his attention especially to the defence of the country while the management of the financial affairs devolved upon the Intendant, who was also invested with somewhat extensive judicial powers.

Feudalism and Colonization.

The feudal system, introduced into the colony almost at its birth, was one of the most efficacious means employed for the settlement of New France. To encourage the settlers or the military officers who distinguished themselves by their devotion to the advancement of the country and the service of the king, tracts of arable lands were granted to them in fiefs and seigniories, on the condition of establishing thereon a certain number of settlers, failing which the grants lapsed. This restriction contributed powerfully to the advancement of colonization. To retain their grants, the seigneurs became colonization agents, brought settlers out from France when they could not procure them in the country, and, in fine, took every possible means to keep up the settlements formed on their lands.

The Clergy and Education.

The glorious part played by the clergy in the establishment of New-France is well known. While our missionaries civilized the aborigines, converted them into friends and allies of the French, and discovered a large portion of the territories, which they thus brought under the domination of the king, the secular clergy ministered to the colonists and created the parochial organization, which has been our bulwark and our great source of strength under British rule. To the clergy, we also owe the institutions of classical and elementary education which we possessed at the time of the cession of the country to England; and it was in these institutions, maintained by the clergy, that were formed the great patriots who defended us in the dark days of our history, and who finally won for us the responsible government which we have now enjoyed for half a century.

In spite of the almost continual struggles which it had to maintain against the New England colonies, the Indians, and the monopolists, during the first period of its history, New France had succeeded in becoming a regularly constituted country from the religious and civil point of view, when the war broke out which culminated in the defeat of the Plains of Abraham, in 1759, and which, subsequently, by the treaty of 1763, assured to England the possession of all the French territories in America. The French population then numbered about 70,000 souls, but they were deserted by most of the nobles and the seigneurs who returned to France rather than submit to the English yoke, so that there remained with that population only the clergy to guide and defend them.

English Rule.

Notwithstanding the treaties, which guaranteed to the French Canadians the maintenance of their religion and their civil laws, the conduct

of the authorities, in the early days of English rule, created much uneasiness in consequence of the efforts of certain fanatics to crush everything French and Catholic. The military regime was continued down to 1774; but, at that date, the Canadians were reassured by the concession of a more equitable form of government to divert them from sympathy with the revolt in the New England colonies. This measure had the desired effect; in 1775, the French Canadians took up arms to repel the American invasion and defend the English flag against the attacks of English colonists.

Political Struggles.

The act of 1774 was followed by the constitution of 1791, which divided Canada into two provinces and granted to each a legislative assembly composed of representatives elected by the people. Unfortunately, this governmental system did not carry with it ministerial responsibility and the confidence which it at first inspired soon changed to discontent and distrust provoked by the arbitrary conduct of some of the governors of the colony. After giving a new proof of their loyalty by the part they took in the war of 1812, during which de Salaberry shed lustre on our race at the famous battle of Chateauguay, the French Canadians protested against the wrongdoing of the administration and, as a check upon the fatal influence of the bureaucrats, demanded the control of the public funds, which had been mismanaged or plundered by the favorites of England. This, in other words, was asking for ministerial responsibility as it then and has ever since existed in England. The Canadians were led in this struggle by Bedard, Blanchet, Parent, Papineau, Morin, Duvernay and all that galaxy of illustrious patriots, who may have committed certain mistakes and fallen into certain excesses, but who are none the less entitled to the honor of having introduced into America, in all its fullness, the system of responsible government.

After the melancholy events of 1837 and 1838, during which the patriots shed their blood for the conquest of the liberties which they claimed, the constitution of 1791 was temporarily superseded by martial law—which constitutes one of the darkest periods of our history—and finally by the constitution of 1841 granting to Canada the responsible government so long demanded. To neutralize the influence of the French Canadians, however, the constitution of 1841 united the two provinces under one government. This union provoked well grounded apprehensions, which were aggravated by the efforts of the bureaucrats, seconded unfortunately by Lord Metcalfe, to attenuate the privileges guaranteed them by the new constitution; but Lafontaine, the leader of the French Canadians, succeeded in triumphing over these obstacles, in opposing a victorious resistance to the intrigues of the “Family Compact” and in extracting from the constitution not only all the advantages possible, but even others which its authors had not foreseen.

Encouraged by these successes, some of our representatives overstepped the bounds of prudence, and to better assure the influence of Lower Canada—now the province of Quebec—in the administration of the country, they demanded that the representation of the people in the Legislative Assembly

should be based on the number of the population. A motion in this sense was made in the Legislative Assembly by Mr P. J. O. Chauveau, member for the county of Quebec, but opposed by Lafontaine, who, foreseeing that the population of Upper Canada—now Ontario—would increase more rapidly than that of our province, objected to this mode of representation, which in the long run could only result to our detriment.

The system of responsible government was finally and fully established by the wise policy of Lord Elgin, the most illustrious of our English governors before Confederation. This governor allowed himself to be exclusively guided by the advice of his ministers and never swerved from this rule, even when the Tories revolted in 1849, made an attempt on his life and burnt the Parliament House, because he had given his sanction to the bill granting an indemnity to the victims of the insurrection of 1837, in Lower Canada.

Annexation Movement.

This was the expiring effort of the Family Compact to annihilate the influence of the French Canadians. Seeing that they had failed in their insurrection and that their conduct had been condemned by the Imperial authorities, they organized the annexation movement of 1849, to which the commercial crisis through which the country was passing at the time, in consequence of the establishment of Free Trade in England, lent a certain opportuneness, and then battle-weary ended by forming an alliance in 1854 with some of the Liberal leaders who had succeeded Lafontaine.

Era of Progress.

To counteract the consequences of the change made by England in her fiscal policy and to arrest the crisis which this change had brought about in Canada, the Coalition ministries, which succeeded that of Lafontaine, inaugurated an era of public improvements, which introduced a large amount of capital into the country and imparted great activity to trade. This activity was also greatly enhanced by the reciprocity treaty, which threw open to our natural products the profitable market of the United States. Lastly, came the abolition of the seigniorial tenure to crown the economic reforms, which had given such an extraordinary impulse to the material progress of the country.

To the Liberal and Coalition governments, which succeeded each other from 1841 to 1867, we are also indebted for the municipal and school organizations actually in vogue in our province, for our civil code and code of civil procedure, for our system of judicial decentralization, and for the first serious measures adopted to stimulate colonization.

On the occasion of the coalition of 1854, a fraction of the Reform party of Upper Canada separated from Mr Hincks and adopted as their programme the assertion of the rights of the upper province against the pretended encroachments of Lower Canada. Placed on such burning ground, politics took an exciting turn and divided the two parties about equally. Warmly taking up Mr

Chauveau's proposal in favor of representation by population, the Grits succeeded in rallying the majority of Upper Canada to their side and ended by securing its triumph, through an alliance with the Conservatives to carry the Confederation Act which recognized that principle.

Confederation.

The constitution of 1867 gives to the province of Quebec an autonomous government as regards all its own particular interests. Interpreted in accordance with the sense and spirit of the Federal pact of 1864 and 1865, this constitution assures the perfect autonomy of the province and the maintenance intact of its laws and institutions, and would enable it to energetically and efficaciously develop our immense material resources. It is at this that the whole policy of our province should aim, a policy based on the most inviolable respect for all the interests of the different races and religious beliefs with whose defence and safeguard we are specially entrusted. From the moment these interests no longer find in the provincial administration all the protection to which they are entitled, the Local Legislature becomes so much useless machinery and legislative union, *ipso facto*, a live issue.

II

GEOGRAPHICAL POSITION.

The province of Quebec occupies the centre of the Confederation (Dominion of Canada). With its eastern shores washed by the waves of the Atlantic and traversed throughout its entire length by the river St. Lawrence, it unites all the advantages both of a maritime and a continental country. Situated in the temperate zone, its climate is among the most favorable to the activity, energy and industry of the vigorous peoples who inhabit it.

The province extends from east to west between $57^{\circ} 50'$ and $80^{\circ} 6'$ west longitude from the meridian of Greenwich, and from south to north between 52° and 45° north latitude.

Its configuration takes the irregular form of a triangle, with its base to the south-west and its apex at l'Anse au Sablon immediately inside the straits of Belle-Isle. Its greatest length, represented by a line drawn from White River at the north western extremity of Lake Temiscamingue to the intersection of the shore line of the Gulf of St. Lawrence by the eastern boundary at l'Anse au Sablon, is about 1350 miles or 2573 kilometres. Its greatest width, measured from north to south along a line drawn between the seventy-first and seventy-second degrees of longitude, is almost 500 miles or more than 800 kilometres.

According to the conclusions of the report of the special committee of the Legislative Assembly on the subject of its northern and north-western boundaries, the province of Quebec is bounded as follows :

" To the east, south-east and south by the Gulf of St. Lawrence, the Bay des Chaleurs, the river Ristigouche and the interprovincial line which divides it from New Brunswick, to the river St Francis ; thence by the international line dividing Canada from the United States, to the Hall river ; thence by the 45th

degree of north latitude to its intersection with the middle of the river St. Lawrence at Point Saint-Regis ; to the south-west, west and north-west by the middle of the river St. Lawrence from Point Saint-Regis to Point à Beaudet; thence by the interprovincial line, which separates it from the province of Ontario, to Point Fortune on the Ottawa ; thence along the middle of the Ottawa river and lake Temiscamingue to the northern extremity of that lake ; thence by a meridian line to James Bay; to the north-west, north and north, by James Bay as far as the mouth of the East-Main river, by the right shore of the said river from its mouth to its source ; thence, going north by a line striking the most northern waters of the great river Esquimaux ; thence by the left bank of the same river, the north shore of the Bay du Rigolet (Hamilton's Inlet), by the meridian of the most eastern point of the sources of the river St. Paul or Petit Esquimaux ; by the left bank of this river to the 52nd degree of north latitude, and following this parallel until it strikes the meridian of l'Anse au Blanc Sablon; and thence by this meridian of the 52nd degree of latitude to the Gulf of St. Lawrence."

The islands of Anticosti and Brion, the Bird Rocks, the Magdalen Islands and all the islands situated near Gaspé and along the northern coast of the Gulf of St. Lawrence to l'Anse au Blanc Sablon also belong to the province of Quebec.

These limits embrace the actual territory of the province and that claimed by it, according to the conclusions of the report of the special committee of 1886. The superficies is 116,531 square miles or 74,579,840 acres.

Taking into account the sinuosities of its outlines, the perimeter of the province of Quebec, within its actual limits, is about 3000 miles or 4,828 kilometres, of which 740 miles or 1,190 kilometres are sea-coast, and 2,260 miles or 3638 kilometres are land-frontier.

The extent of sea-coast is much greater than these figures would seem to indicate. The shores of the Gulf and River St. Lawrence, from a line connecting Wolf Bay with Cape Rosier, as far as Quebec, may be included as coast, as along the whole of this distance oceanic navigation is carried on as in the open sea. Therefore, 750 miles or 1206 kilometres may be added for the distance between Wolf Bay and Quebec along the north shore, and 400 miles or 644 kilometres for the distance between Cape Rosier and Quebec along the south shore, which gives an interior development of coast to the extent of 1,150 miles or 1,850 kilometres. Add this to the extent of the maritime frontier proper and we get a total of 2590 miles or 3,040 kilometres.

III

SUPERFICIES.

The area embraced within the boundaries of the province of Quebec forms a superficies of about 165,525,990 acres, equal to 258,634 square miles, or nearly 669,896 square kilometres. Deducting the surface of the inland waters and those of the River and Gulf of St. Lawrence, the land surface amounts to 120,764,651 acres, equal to 188,688 square miles or 488,676 square kilometres. Compared with the area of their territories, our province exceeds all the countries of Europe, except Russia, as indicated by the following table :

Countries.	Square miles.	Square kil.
Province of Quebec.....	258,634	669,846
Austria-Hungary.....	240,942	624,024
France	204,177	528,805
Spain	197,667	511,944
Sweden	170,979	444,824
Turkey in Europe.....	125,289	324,480
Prussia.....	137,066	354,992
Norway.....	123,205	319,093
Great Britain and Ireland.....	120,832	312,947

As regards the European countries, the figures in the column of miles are taken from Martin's *Statesman's Year Book* for 1888. This table shows that the superficies of the province of Quebec exceeds by 141,041 kilometres that of France, by 356,899 kilometres that of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and by 314,584 kilometres that of Prussia, that is to say, that the territorial extent of our province exceeds by more than a third that of the three European countries which take the foremost rank among the important nations of Europe.

IV

TERRITORIAL DIVISION.

For administrative purposes, the province of Quebec is divided into twenty judicial districts, comprising sixty-five counties or electoral colleges, which are subdivided into cities, towns, villages, townships and parishes. In addition to these subdivisions, certain counties, especially in the western section of the province, include immense tracts of the State domain, partially surveyed and under lease to private persons or to companies, who work the timber and the mines contained in the same. The portions of the public domain thus conceded by the State are designated under the names of "timber limits" and "mining locations."

The extent of territory surveyed and divided into farm lots, actually available, is 7,324,530 acres, and the grants and sales made to the present date form an area of 21,660,449 acres :

Lands conceded in fiefs and seigniories.....	10,678,931
" " in free and common socage.....	10,981,518
	21,660,449

It has been hereinbefore stated that the extent of land comprised within the limits of the Province of Québec amounts to 120,018,964 acres. By striking off from this figure the extent conceded in seigniories and in free and common socage, there will remain 98,358,515 acres, which represent the extent still available of the lands comprised in the State domain. Of this available quantity, 7,324,530 acres are surveyed, divided into farm lots and open to settlement.

Among the electoral colleges, there are some exceedingly extensive. Thus, for example, the county of Chicoutimi and Saguenay alone embraces a territory

exceeding by 2576 square miles the collective areas of Holland, Belgium, Portugal and Scotland, which together form an area of 90,776 square miles : Again, the territory included within the county of Pontiac almost equals the superficies of Belgium and Holland together.

V

DISTRIBUTION OF LANDED PROPERTY.

According to the data supplied by the census of 1881, of the 120,018,964 acres of land contained in the province of Quebec, 12,625,877 acres were at that time occupied by 123,932 proprietors, 12,344 tenant farmers, and 1,587 employees, and of the 12,625,877 thus occupied, 6,410,264 had been improved, — which probably means cleared — 4,147,984 acres were under crops, 2,207,422 acres in pasture, and 856 acres in gardens and orchards.

A comparison of these figures with those of the census of 1871 shows the following differences :

	1881	1871	Difference.
Number of acres occupied.....	12,625,877	11,025,786	1,600,091
" " improved.....	6,410,264	5,703,944	706,320
" " under crops.....	4,147,984	3,714,304	433,680
" " in pasture.....	2,207,422	1,943,182	204,240
" " in gardens and orchards....	856	46,458	45,602
" " proprietors.....	123,932	109,052	24,873
" " tenant farmers.....	12,344	7,895	4,449
" " employees.....	1,587	1,132	455

The average, per head, of the extent of land owned is 88.8 and that of the lands unoccupied 79.5 acres. The number of persons per square mile of territory is 7.2.

VI

SUPERFICIAL CONFIGURATION.

The province of Quebec is, so to say, enclosed between two mountain chains : the Laurentides to the north and Alleghanies to the south. These chains increase their distance from each other as they proceed from east to west. By their position, as well as by their geological formation, they constitute two distinct systems, although both are composed of sedimentary deposits in the metamorphic state. The mountains of the north-eastern chain are of a more crystalline nature and more ancient formation than those of the southern chain, as they belong to the azoic age, while those to the south belong to the paleozoic period. Between these two chains, there are in the valleys of the St. Lawrence and some of its tributaries the mountains known as Mounts Rouge, mont Beloeil, St. Therese and Mount Royal.

Laurentian System.—The general trend of the Laurentides is from north-east to south-west. From the eastern frontier of the province, that is to say, from Labrador, to the neighborhood of the Saguenay, the Laurentides form a sort of compact mass or barrier only broken through by the courses of the

large rivers which cut it transversely, and stretch in width from the coast to the "height of lands." In approaching the region of the Saguenay, the chain separates into two distinct ranges: 1o, that of the "height of lands", which describes a great curve towards the north to turn the great valley of Lake St. John and then continues almost in a straight line to form the northern watershed of the Ottawa basin; 2o, that of the Laurentides properly so called, which skirts the St. Lawrence to Cape Tourmente, and then begins gradually to run back from the river to a distance of thirty miles or forty-eight kilometres in rear of Montreal, thus forming the southern watershed of the basin, of Lake St. John and the Ottawa river.

Along this whole distance, the average height of the Laurentides is about 1,600 feet or 493 metres. But this height is not uniform. Between Lake St. John and Murray Bay, the principal crest of the chain attains an altitude of 4,000 feet, 1,220 metres, over the sea level, while the summits of the mountains nearest to the St. Lawrence are little more than half as high. Bayfield has estimated at 2,547 feet, or 776 metres, the height of the Eboulements mountain between Murray Bay and Bay St. Paul. He sets down at to 1,919 feet, 585 metres, the height of Cape Tourmente, and to 2,687 feet, 819 metres, that of the St. Anne mountain, twenty miles below Quebec. It is these mountains which impart to the surroundings of our ancient capital that grand and picturesque aspect which is so much admired by all travellers.

In the region to the north of the Ottawa river, the highest summit is that of the Trembling mountain, in the county of Argenteuil—its elevation being 2,060 feet or 628 metres, while that of the surrounding hills varies between 1,000 and 1,200 feet, 304 and 364 metres.

Between the Saguenay and the Ottawa, the principal ridge of the Laurentides is flanked on the north side by a multitude of foothills and precipitous spurs, cut by deep and narrow gorges; with the exception of that of Lake St. John, the valleys are all small and the basins very numerous, but unimportant, the great basins of the Saguenay, St. Maurice and Ottawa, which are immense, always excepted. The summits of these mountains are generally rounded and form mamelons divided the one from the other by canons and breaches giving rise to valleys, plateaus, gorges and thousands of lakes, some of which are pretty extensive. Save a few bare peaks here and there, these summits are all clothed with forests of conifers and certain hard woods, while the valleys support a forest growth of deciduous trees and of pine, spruce, cedar and other woods, which supply the timber trade.

The average elevation of the great interior plateau, in which the basin of Lake St. John and the Upper Ottawa is situated, is about 600 feet above the sea level. Lake St. John, which occupies the eastern extremity of this great plateau, is only 293 feet, or 89 metres, over the sea, while Lake Keepawa, at its western extremity, is 760 feet or 224 metres above tide water, and the elevation of Grand Lake, about half-way between the two first, is only 700 feet or 212 metres. The length of this plateau is about 350 miles or 563 kilometres, and its average breadth exceeds 150 miles or 241 kilometres, which gives a

superficies of 52,500 square miles or 135,683 square kilometres. This plateau, which is composed in many places of a very fertile soil, is covered with rich forests, which furnish to the trade more than three-quarters of the immense quantities of timber annually exported from the province.

In the region of the Laurentides, there are thousands of lakes, several of which are very extensive, as the following table will indicate :

Lakes.	Superficies.	Elevation.
St. John,	360 miles or 92,240 hect.	293 ft. or 89 metres
Grand Lake	550 " 145,040 "	700 " 212 "
Keepawa	92 " 23,828 "	760 " 224 "
Temiscamingue	330 " 85,470 "	800 " 243 "

There are many other lakes, almost as large, and some even larger, but which have not yet been accurately scaled.

The Alleghany System. — This chain is only the prolongation of the Appalachians, of which the Alleghanies are an offshoot. Starting from the eastern extremity of the province, it skirts the southern shore of the St. Lawrence and only begins to trend away from it in the neighborhood of Kamouraska, about one hundred miles below Quebec. On leaving Gaspé, the principal axis bends towards the river and runs towards the north-west to the neighborhood of Ste Anne-des-Monts, then inclines towards the south-west to form the heights of the Shickshocks between the Cape Chat river and the river Matane; diverges from this point in the direction of the Chaudière river, beyond which the principal ridge runs towards the south-west for a short distance; and then resumes a southerly course to leave the province and extend into Vermont under the name of the Green Mountains.

From Gaspé to Quebec, this mountain chain forms the watershed between the basin of the St. Lawrence to the north and the Bay des Chaleurs and Bay of Fundy to the south. The extremity of the Alleghany chain forms the great plateau of the Gaspé peninsula, which has an elevation of about 1,500 feet or 1456 metres above the surrounding sea level, and is cut by deep gorges in which flow the rivers of that region.

The surface of this plateau is not materially varied except by the heights of the Shickshock mountains which have a development of about sixty-five miles in length by from two to six miles in width, and are distant from the St. Lawrence a dozen miles. These mountains rise into peaks and attain a height ranging between 3,000 and 4,000 feet, 912 to 1,216 metres. The loftiest peaks are those of mounts Bayfield, 3,973 feet or 1210 metres, Logan, 3,768 feet or 1,145 metres, Matouasi, 3,365 feet or 1,023 metres, and Bonhomme, 2,269 feet or 696 metres. The St. Anne, Cape Chat and Matane rivers have their sources back of these mountains, which they cut into deep gorges; in their upper waters, the beds of these rivers are not more than 500 or 600 feet, 152 or 178 metres, over the St. Lawrence, into which they empty.

In rear of this principal axis and on a level with the upper courses of the rivers, there is a depression forming a great interior plateau, bounded to the south by the chain of heights which almost skirts the shores of the Bay des

Chaleurs and extends towards the south-west, following the direction of the frontier of the province. The highest peaks of this range of heights skirting, the shore of the Bay des Chaleurs are the Conical mountain, with an altitude of 1,910 feet or 580 metres, at the foot of which the Grand Cascapedia river takes its rise, the three mountains situated at the head of the Bonaventure river, which are respectively 1,757, 1,394 and 1,324 feet high, and mount Tracadigéche, which rises to a height of over 1,800 feet above the bay of Carleton.

From Kamouraska, south-westwards, the hills gradually trend away from the river to a distance of 30 miles, or 48 kilometres to the south of Quebec, and of 50 miles or 80 kilometres to the south of Montreal. As the chain advances towards the south, its height gradually decreases and its northern slope forms an inclined plateau, whose general uniformity is only broken by numerous hills and a few mountains less elevated than those of Gaspé. The highest summits of this chain are in American territory, in the States of Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont; in the province of Quebec, it attains its greatest altitude, in mount St. Donat, in the county of Rimouski, the White mountain, in the township of Coleraine, mount St. Ronan, in the township of Buckland, the Ham mountain, mount Victoria or Orford, the Owl's Head near Lake Memphremagog, and the Sutton mountain. The height of these different mountains varies between 1,500 and 3,000 feet.

The upheavals of the slopes of this mountain chain, in the sense parallel to the general axis of the chain, form foothills of no great height, between which are valleys drained by the rivers which flow from the south into the St. Lawrence. Like those of the Shickshock mountain region, the Chaudière and St. Francis rivers cut through the axis of the chain itself and have their headwaters in the valleys lying to the south of the chain and running parallel to it. In their upper course, the beds of the rivers which cross the chain or take there rise in it are from 500 to 900 feet, 152 to 276 metres, above the level of the St. Lawrence towards which they flow with an almost uniform fall and without any abrupt or remarkable descents.

Valley of the St. Lawrence.—This valley fills the space comprised between the two mountain chains above described. It has an area of 11,830 square miles or 20,637 square kilometres, of which 8,680 miles lie to the south and 3,150 miles to the north of the St. Lawrence. The southern part is about 280 miles or 450 kilometres long, with an average breadth of 31 miles or 50 kilometres, varying between a dozen miles at Kamouraska and about fifty to the south of Montreal. The northern part extends from Cape Tourmente to the western boundary of the province at the mouth of the river Beaudet, a distance of about 170 miles or 274 kilometres; its average breadth is about 15 miles, varying between none whatever at Cape Tourmente and about 30 miles in rear of Montreal.

At its western extremity this great valley forms an immense plain, circumscribed by the south shore of the St. Lawrence, the north bank of the Yamaska, and the western limit of the counties of Iberville, St. John's, and Laprairie. This plain occupies more than a third of the valley of the St. Lawrence, and, properly speaking, constitutes the valley of the Richelieu. Its shape is that of a triangle, with its head at the entrance of Lake St. Peter,

which is only an expansion of the St. Lawrence. The area of this triangle is 1400 square miles or 3626 square kilometres. Its surface is absolutely level all over or rather is only broken by the mountains of St. Thérèse, Rougemont and St. Hilaire, which are of small extent and are only isolated masses, rising abruptly from the plain like air bubbles upon the surface of water. Mount St. Hilaire, the largest of these intrusive masses, is about 1200 feet or 365 metres. From the Sugar Loaf, as the highest part of this mountain is called, all the surrounding valley can be taken in at a glance from east to west and the view is only bounded by the horizon as at sea. With the naked eye, the city of Montreal, the Victoria bridge, and even Lake Champlain, 50 miles or about 80 kilometres distant from St. Hilaire, can be discerned. The magnificent *coup d'œil*, the fairy-like panorama, which unrolls itself to the view from the summit of this mountain has won for it the name of Belœil under which it is officially designated.

The remainder of the St. Lawrence valley, that is to say, the strip bordering the plain just described, is more broken. The region comprised between the mouth of the Ottawa and Cape Tourmente, although generally level, sometimes rises by steep gradients forming terraces from 200 to 300 feet, 60 to 90 metres, above the level of the river, to which they run parallel. The rivers, which traverse this region, come from the mountains and form in their descent innumerable falls and rapids capable of furnishing almost unlimited motive power for industrial purposes. On reaching the lower plains, these streams have hollowed out for themselves deep beds, with steep sides, in the alluvial grounds.

VII

HYDROGRAPHY.

The province of Quebec has a shore line of 825 miles on the Atlantic. Along our coasts, this ocean takes different names : from l'Anse-au-Sablon to Point des-Monts on the north shore to l'Anse-au-Four and Cape Gaspé, on the south it is called the Gulf of St-Lawrence ; the indentation between Cape Gaspé and Point St. Peter is designated by the name of Gaspé Bay ; from Point St. Peter to Mackerel Point, it is again the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and, lastly, from Point St. Peter to the mouth of the river Ristigouche, it gets the name of the Bay des Chaleurs.

Properly speaking, the whole province, within its actual limits, is only a great basin, whose waters flow towards the St. Lawrence. Except the rivers of the southern slope of the plateau of Gaspé, which empty into the Bay des Chaleurs, and those of the narrow watershed contiguous to the frontier of New Brunswick and the State of Maine, which discharge into the same bay by the river Ristigouche, and into the Bay of Fundy by the river St. John, all the other rivers take their rise in the two mountain chains enclosing the province along its whole length and carry their waters into the St. Lawrence, which conveys them to the sea. The St. Lawrence is the principal artery of this immense

river system. In the province of Quebec, its total length, including the gulf, is 1,046 miles or 1,684 kilometres between the straits of Belle Isle and St. Regis, or 605 miles, 974 kilometres, between St. Regis and Point-des-Monts, deducting the gulf. The water surface comprised between these two points forms an area of 5,054 square miles, or 1,298,954 hectares.

The influence of the tide is felt in the river as high up as Three Rivers, or to 900 miles, 1,449 kilometres, from the straits of Belle Isle. At Quebec it rises to 3.35 metres in the neap and 5.60 in the high tides of the equinox. The waters begin to become salty at St Thomas, about fifty-eight kilometres below Quebec, and at Kamouraska, sixty-four kilometres lower down than St Thomas, the water is sea-water in the full force of the term, to such a degree, in fact, that, under French rule, salt was there manufactured by evaporation from the water of the St Lawrence. McTaggart, an English engineer, has calculated that this great river pours annually into the ocean 16,678,883,260,000 litres of fresh water, which gives an average of 45,692,803,457 litres per day, 1,903,866,810 per hour and 63,462,227 per minute.

The principal rivers which empty into the St Lawrence, on the north side, are the :

	<i>Length.</i>		<i>Length.</i>		
Ottawa.....	615	miles	Outardes.....	234	milles
L'Assomption.....	70	"	Manicouagan	224	"
St. Maurice.....	280	"	Pentecost.....	75	"
Batiscan	93	"	Moisic.....	140	"
Jacques-Cartier.....	90	"	St. John.....	150	"
St. Anne.....	60	"	Natashquan.....	150	"
Montmorency.....	55	"	Mecatina.....	150	"
Murray.....	80	"	St. Paul or des Esquimaux	100	"
Saguenay.....	110	"			
Portneuf.....	80	"		2,948	"
Sault-au-Cochon.....	100	"			
Betsiamits	112	"			

The three largest of these rivers—the Ottawa, St. Maurice and Saguenay—also receive the waters of many large tributaries as follows :

Tributaries of the Ottawa.

River du Moine.....	80	miles.	River Petite Nation.....	50	miles
" Noire.....	115	"	" Rouge	120	"
" Coulonge.....	150	"	" du Nord	60	"
" Gatineau.....	250	"	" Vermillion		
" Du Lièvre.....	170	"	" Flamand.....		
			" Manouan.....	77	"
			" Au Ruban.....	30	"
				995	"

The portion of the basin of the Ottawa comprised within the province of Quebec has a superficies of about 40,130 miles, or 105,938 kilometres.

Tributaries of the St. Maurice.

Mekinac.....	30	miles	Shawinigan.....	35	miles
Bostonnais (Little).....	37	"	Matawin.....	120	"
Bostonnais (Great).....	90	"	Au Rat.	25	"
Croche.....	65	"	Vermillion	100	"
Trenche.....	102	"	Flamand.....	25	"
Pierriche.....	22	"	Manouan.....	77	"
Pierriche (Great).....	25	"	Au Ruban.....	30	"
Windigo.....	30	"		813	"

The basin drained by the St. Maurice and its tributaries has a superficies of about 17,030 square miles, or 44,107 square kilometres, that is to say, that it exceeds by 14,752 kilometres the whole of Belgium, by 11,248 kilometres the whole of Holland, by 9,346 kilometres the whole of Wurtemberg and Baden together, and by 5,870 kilometres the whole of Denmark.

Tributaries of the Saguenay proper.

River St. Marguerite.....	60 milles	River Valin.....	100 miles
“ Shipshaw.....	110 “	“ Chicoutimi...	55 “

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Tributaries of Lake St. John.

River Chamouchouan.....	150 miles	River Metabetchouan	90 miles
“ Mistassini.....	160 “	“	“
“ Peribonka.....	140 “	“	“

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On the south side, the principal affluents of the St. Lawrence are the following rivers :

River Richelieu.....	72 miles	River Ouelle.....	45 miles
“ Yamaska.....	87 “	“ du Loup.....	50 “
“ St. Francis.....	85 “	“ Trois-Pistoles....	40 “
“ Nicolet.....	80 “	“ Rimouski.....	65 “
“ Bécancour.....	75 “	“ Madeleine.....	68 “
“ Chaudière.....	110 “		
“ Etchemin	55 “		882
“ du Sud.....	50 “		

The following rivers empty into the Bay des Chaleurs :

River York	63 miles	River Matapedia.....	60 miles
“ Bonaventure.....	75 “	“ Ristigouche.....	70 “
“ Cascapedia.....	65 “		

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Addition of all these data will show that the collective length of the principal rivers of the province amounts to 7,306 miles.

All these rivers constitute and furnish means of transportation which are of the greatest utility. Several of them are navigable for the greater part of their course, especially the Saguenay, Ottawa, St Maurice, Yamaska and St. Francis : the others are used for driving timber and thus greatly facilitate the working of our immense forest domain : these rivers also supply manufacturing industry with almost unlimited water power, and thus permit the establishment in all parts of the province of factories of all kind, whose motive power costs almost nothing. These water powers offer above all special advantages for the making of wood pulp. Indeed, there is no country in the world, which can offer so many facilities to this industry, as the province of Quebec.

The length of the principal lakes is as follows :

	<i>Length</i>		<i>Length</i>
Lake Matapedia.....	12 miles	Lake Memphremagog.....	22 miles
“ Témiscouata.....	26 “	Lake Nemieachingue	15 “
“ St. Francis	15 “	“ des Males.....	35 “

	<i>Length.</i>		<i>Length.</i>
Lake Temiscamingue.....	40 miles	" Edward.....	15 "
" Keepawa.....	25 "	" St. John	27 "
" des Quinze.....	25 "	" Kenogami.....	18 "
" Mijizowaga.....	15 "	" Pomoucachio.....	35 "
" Antiquas (gr).....	25 "	" Pipmaugan	32 "
" Victoria (gr).....	20 "	" Pletipi.....	40 "
" Kakebonga (gr).....	20 "	" Mooshaulagan.....	25 "
" Papenegenegang.....	20 "	" Ishimanicouagan.....	30 "
" White Fish.....	15 "		
" Wabaskontyonk	20 "		

Lakes Mistassini and Abbitibbi are not included in this list, although they belong to the territory claimed by the province. These two lakes have the following dimensions :

	<i>Length.</i>	<i>Width.</i>
Mistassini.....	100 miles	12 miles
Abbitibbi	47 ,,,	2 to 17 "

VIII

MINES AND MINERALS.

The province of Quebec is rich in minerals of all kinds.

Iron is found in almost every part of the country, but chiefly in the Laurentian formation, of which it is, so to say, the characteristic mineral. The magnetic oxyde is the most abundant of all the forms in which it occurs. In the township of Grenville, there is a bed of from six to eight yards in breadth, by about three hundred and fifty in length, which gives an analysis of 52.2% per cent. of metallic iron. Still more extensive deposits, one of which is more than half a mile long occurs, in the townships of Wentworth and Grandison. But the most important is that of Hull, where the mineral forms a bed of 90 feet thick and gives an analysis of 69.65 per cent of pure metal. There is a great deal of magnetic oxyde in the region of the St. Maurice, as well as in the neighborhood of lakes Nemicachingue and Culotte, near the headwaters of the river du Lièvre. On the banks of great lake Jacques-Cartier, there are extensive deposits of oxydulated iron, in the form of magnetic sand, in sufficient quantity to be worked. Lastly, oxydulated iron, in the form of magnetic sand, is found in unlimited quantities on the shores of the St. Lawrence from Tadousac to Natashquan and beyond it, a distance of about 400 miles. These deposits also cover, for thirty miles from the sea, the banks of several of the large rivers which flow into the St. Lawrence, notably the river Manicouagan. The iron manufactured from this sand is of superior quality : tests made in England show that it has a tensile force even greater than that of the famous Lawmoor iron and that it can easily be worked cold as well as hot. The magnetic ore is also disseminated through certain crystalline rocks of the Eastern Townships and its presence has been noted in Sutton, county of Brome, Leeds, county of Megantic, and St. Francis County of Beauce.

Limonite or Bog Iron exists in immense quantities to the north of the St Lawrence. In Kildare, there is a deposit covering a superficies of nine miles, as well as other large deposits in St Emilie and several other places. But the richest occur in the region of Three Rivers, where they have been worked since 1737 by the St Maurice forges and later by those of Radnor. Between the St Maurice and the river Batiscan, the ore covers a tract exceeding six miles in superficies and reaching a thickness of four to ten inches. From one deposit of less than three quarters of an acre in superficies 390 tons of the mineral have been extracted.

This ore produces an iron of superior quality ; at the International Exhibition of 1867, Messrs. Larue & Co, proprietors of the Radnor forges, exhibited railway carwheels, manufactured from this iron, which, after running over 150,000 miles, showed no signs of deterioration.

Titanic Iron is found in many places, and notably at St Urbain, where here is a mountain composed entirely of it. This mine would be of inexhaustible richness if a way could be found to more easily smelt the ore.

Plumbago, another mineral characteristic of the Laurentian formation, has been discovered in many places in the Ottawa region, and notably in Buckingham, where it is worked to some extent. This mineral occupies an area of about 8000 acres in superficies.

Apatite or Phosphate of Lime, another mineral of the Laurentian system, occupies an area of about 500,000 acres in the valley of the river du Lièvre, where the work of extracting it is being carried on by a number of companies and on a large scale. In 1887, there were exported from the province of Quebec and derived from these mines, 22,070 tons of apatite valued at \$390,526.

Mica occurs in several parts of the province : hunters and explorers have found workable deposits in the valleys of several rivers, and notably of the St. Maurice, the Great Peribonka, to the north of Lake St. John, and of the Grand Cascapedia, in the county of Bonaventure. Sir William Logan notes the existence of other deposits in Sutton, Bolton, Calumet Island, and especially in Grenville.

In our province, the characteristic minerals of the Appalachian region, that is to say, the mountainous region extending from the frontier of Vermont to Gaspé, are gold, copper and asbestos.

The auriferous deposits of Beauce and surrounding counties, Compton especially, cover an area of about 100,000 acres. Gold has also been found more to the eastward in the rear of the counties bounded to the south by the frontier of Maine. It is unquestionable that these deposits are very rich and would be much more productive, if they were worked by better processes and by companies able to devote to their development all the capital required. This is the opinion of Mr Ells, of the Geological Survey, who, after a thorough exploration of this region in 1884 and 1885, declared in his report that gold is found in nearly all the rivers and that, by making the necessary researches, the quartz containing the gold now found in the alluvial formations in the river bottoms, will eventually be discovered *in situ*. He also establishes the important fact

that the auriferous lands in the counties of Beauce and Compton decidedly belong to the same geological formation as those of Nova Scotia.

Copper has been found at many points and notably at Upton, Acton, Harvey Hill and Capelton. The ores of copper seem to be scattered generally throughout the Quebec group and the members of the Geological Survey have expressed the opinion that it will be found even in Gaspé. Nearly all these copper ores contain silver, which also occurs in the deposits of galena at St. Francis, in Beauce, Moulton Hills, in Compton, in the neighborhood of Gaspé, at Bay St. Paul and other places.

Asbestos forms the object of extensive workings in Coleraine, Thetford, Wolfestown and Danville. All these mines occur in the great zone of serpentine or volcanic rocks, which stretch with some breaks from the Vermont line to Gaspé. In Gaspé, there are large tracts of these volcanic rocks, in which serpentine occurs so abundantly as to form several mountains, and everywhere, in these places, indications of asbestos have been found—very fine specimens having been obtained by hunters.

Chromic Iron, another mineral of great value, is invariably found in the asbestos deposits. The deposits at Bolton, Ham, Melbourne and Mount Albert, in Gaspé, at Lake Nicolet and Wolfestown, are large enough to be worked.

The other more important minerals found in the province are the following :

Nickel.—On the banks of L'Assomption river, in the 11th range of the seigniory of d'Aillebout, at Bolton, Sutton, and especially at Orford, where it has been regularly worked.

Manganese.—At Stanstead, Bolton, Sutton, Cacouna, St. Anne de la Pocatière, and in the iron ores of the St. Maurice.

Antimony.—At South Ham, where it occurs in workable quantities.

Arsenic.—At St. Francis, County of Beauce, Moulton Hills, in Compton and at Harvey Hill, in the county of Megantic.

Molybdenum.—At St. Jérôme, Harvey Hill, and especially at the mouth of the river Quetachoo, in Manicouagan Bay, this mineral is found in workable quantity, which is a very rare thing. It is enclosed in a vein of gneiss six, inches in diameter and forms nodules of three inches, and sheets with a breadth of as much as twelve inches and a quarter to an inch thick. This mineral is one of the rarest and most valuable.

Slate.—At Rockland, in the township of Melbourne and at Danville, where quarries are worked by two companies, who do a large business.

Marble.—At Dudswell, where a quarry is worked by a Sherbrooke company. This marble takes a very fine polish. It is of different colors : but the most prized is the "black and yellow", this last color being derived from the dolomite in the rock. There are other quarries of marble in different other localities.

Ochres.—In several parts of the province, but chiefly in the environs of Three-Rivers, at St. Anne de Beaupré, and in immense quantities on the north shore of the St. Lawrence from the Saguenay downwards.

Petroleum.—Indications of this mineral have been noted at several points in the county of Gaspé, and an American company are actually making borings to discover the oil wells.

Natural Gas and Mineral Waters occur abundantly in the entire valley of the St. Lawrence from Three Rivers to Lake Champlain, a region which also contains immense peat bogs, capable of furnishing a fuel which was even used for a certain time by the Grand Trunk Railway for of its locomotives.

Granite.—In the Lake St. John region, there is a red granite superior to the Scotch article ; it takes a splendid polish and can be extracted in blocks of any size. Our grey granite of Stanstead is already largely used for building and ornamental purposes and also takes a fine polish.

Serpentine.—In the Eastern Townships and the region of the Notre-Dame mountains, entire mountains are composed of this marble, which occurs in such large quantities as to permit of its use not only for ornamental, but for building purposes.

According to the data collected to date, it may be asserted without exaggeration that the province of Quebec embraces 1,000,000 acres of iron-bearing lands, 500,000 acres of phosphate lands, 100,000 acres of asbestos lands ; 50,000 acres of copper lands, 100,000 acres of auriferous lands, and 10,000 acres of oil lands, or a total of 2,000,000 acres of mineral lands containing workable deposits.

IX

SOIL.

As regards the quality of the soil, our province may be divided into three distinct regions : the region of the Laurentides, the region of the Eastern Townships, and the valley of the St. Lawrence properly so termed, to which our geologists have given the name of the Champaign region.

The hard rocks of the Laurentides are intersected by numerous bands of crystalline limestone, which, by their softness and decomposition, have given birth to a great number of valleys of fertile soil. The slopes of the hills are covered with a layer of vegetable mould supporting an apparently abundant vegetation : but this soil has been partially destroyed by fire in the clearings, which has left the rock exposed. In the river valleys and bottoms of this great plateau, there are, however, considerable tracts of good land, with a deep soil and densely wooded. Here is found the greater part of our forest domain, especially those splendid forests of pine and spruce which supply the export trade and furnish to the province its principal source of revenue, next to the Federal subsidy.

The lands of the Eastern Townships embrace all the mountainous region from the Vermont frontier to the eastern extremity of the province. Like those of the Laurentides, these lands are formed from crystalline rocks,

but softer and producing from their decomposition a more abundant soil—a slightly sandy yellow loam admirably adapted to pasturage and the raising of Indian corn and other cereals. In Gaspé, the calcareous and Devonian formations, which are very extensive, furnish exceedingly rich agricultural land. The forests of this region include a good deal of hard wood, which is almost entirely lacking in many parts of the Laurentides.

The great plain of the St. Lawrence rests upon beds of primitive Silurian and Devonian rocks composed of sandstones, limestones, and schists. These beds are level and overlaid with clay, sometimes interstratified with sand and gravel. These superficial strata, which frequently attain a thickness of several hundred feet, are mostly of marine origin and date from the period when all this region was submerged by the ocean.

They are composed of strong and compact clays, which, in the newly cleared lands, are in many places covered with a thick layer of vegetable mould. The parts adjoining the region of the Eastern Townships, and especially that of the Laurentides, are covered with sandy deposits, chiefly in the neighborhood of Berthier and Three Rivers; but the central part, which is by far the largest, is composed of a tenacious blue clay, more or less calcareous, and of great thickness, constituting a rich soil, which produces crops of all kinds in abundance, but is particularly adapted to wheat raising. These good lands, whose fertility is proverbial, have, however, been exhausted by excessive cropping contrary to the very elementary principles of rational husbandry; they have been constantly sown and resown without regard to fallowing, rotation of crops, deep ploughing or manuring to restore their fertility; but, with the aid of an intelligent system of tillage and the help of manure and rest, they would quickly recover their natural qualities, as attested by the improvements which have been noticeable for some years past especially in the neighborhood of St. Hyacinthe and Montreal.

The immense region of Lake St. John is mostly characterized by an exactly similar soil and one fully as rich as that of the St. Lawrence valley, being composed of clay equally suitable for wheat raising.

X

ARABLE AND WOOD LANDS.

It has been stated above that the area of land comprised within the actual boundaries of the Province of Quebec amounts to 120,764,651 square acres. Strike off from this figure the 10,678,931 acres included in the seigniories and the 11,744,599 acres held in free and common soccage, and it will be found that the amount of available land, forming the public domain, is equal to an area of 98,341,121 acres. Of this domain, it is estimated that at least 20,000,000 acres consist of good, arable land. Allowing a lot of 100 acres to each family, these good lands represent an area sufficient to support a farming population of a million of souls on the basis of five persons to each family.

The forest domain, actually under license for the manufacture of timber,

comprises an area of 47,037 square miles, leaving 68,136 miles still available. The principal woods of the region under license vary a little, as regards quantity in the different parts of the territory.

In the region of the Ottawa, covering 25,616 square miles, the most abundant species are the white and red pine. Then come the grey and black spruce, the red spruce or tamarac; the cedar, balsam-fir, ash, red birch, white birch, maple, elm, and basswood. There is also a little hemlock in some parts of the Lower Ottawa.

In the St. Maurice region, covering 8,699 square miles, pine and spruce occur in about equal quantities. There is also hemlock.

In the other regions, forming an area of 12,722 square miles, pine is no longer found in abundance, the prevailing timber being spruce, cedar, cypress or grey pine, hemlock, red birch, white birch and maple.

It is difficult to accurately specify the relative abundance of the different woods in the portion of the forest domain still available. However, the isolated and incomplete surveys, which have been made in these regions, establish the fact that there still remain several thousands of miles, at the headwaters of the Ottawa, in which red and white pine are found. Everywhere else, pine is only rarely met; the forests being composed of grey and black spruce, tamarac, balsam-fir, cypress and cedar.

These figures apply to the forests comprised within the actual limits of the province. The additional territory which we claim forms an area of 116,531 miles, three-fourths of which are in forest. The explorations of the Geological Survey in the region of the lake and river Abitibi have shown that there are workable pine and spruce in that district; and, as this region of the Abitibi is pretty extensive, it will offer to the lumber trade a vast field of operations.

From the 1st July, 1867, to the St. July, 1888, the revenue from woods and forests has yielded \$10,592,201.48. It amounted to \$796,771.64 for the year ended on the 30th June last, and the officers of the Crown Lands Department are of opinion that it will probably maintain this figure for twelve years more.

XI

FLORA.

The flora of the province of Quebec is composed of nearly all the species common to the climates of the temperate zone. Our sylvan flora includes the following forest trees which are indigenous:

English names.	Common French names.	Technical names.
1 Poplar-leaved birch	Bouleau rouge	Betula populifolia
2 Canoe birch	Bouleau à canot	Betula papyrifera
3 Yellow birch	Bouleau blc--merisier blc.	Betula excelsa.....
4 Black birch	Merisier rouge	Betula lenta.....
5 Red birch	Bouleau noir	Betula nigra.....
6 Bitter hickory	Noyer dur	Carya amara

7	Shell-bark hickory.....	Noyer tendre.....	Carya alba.....
8	White-heart hickory.....	Noix blanche.....	Carya tomentosa.....
9	Hornbeam.....	Charme.....	Carpinus americana
10	White oak.....	Chêne blanc.....	Quercus alba.....
11	Post oak.....	Chêne gris.....	Quercus stellata.....
12	Red oak.....	Chêne rouge	Quercus rubra
13	Coffee-tree.....	Bon duc—Chicot.....	Gymnocladus canadensis..
14	White or simple spruce.....	Petite épинette	Abies alba
15	Norway spruce.....	Epinette de Norvège.....	Abies excelsa
16	Black or double spruce.....	Epinette jaune — Grosse épинette.....	Abies nigra
17	Mountain maple.....	Erable bâtarde.....	Acer spicatum
18	White or silver maple.....	Erable blanche.....	Acer dasycarpum
19	Rock or sugar maple.....	Erable à sucre.....	Acer saccharinum
20	Striped maple.....	Bois barré	Acer pensylvanicum
21	Red maple.....	Plaine	Acer rulyrum
22	Black ash.....	Frêne noir—Frêne gras	Fraxinus sambucifolia
23	White ash.....	Frêne blanc	Fraxinus americana
24	Red ash.....	Frêne rouge	Fraxinus pubescens
25	Beech	Hêtre	Fagus sylvatica
26	American larch.....	Epinette rouge—Tamarac.....	Larix americana
	Tamarac		
27	Ash - leaved maple —Erable à giguières,	Negundo fraxinifolium	
28	Butternut.....	Noyer tendre	Juglans cinerea
29	White or American elm.....	Orme blanc	Ulmus americana
30	Slippery or red elm.....	Orme rouge	Ulmus fulva
31	Iron wood	Bois dur—Bois de fer	Ostrya virginica
32	Large-toothed aspen.....	Peuplier	Populus grandidentata
	Balsam poplar.....	Baumier	Populus balsamifera
33	Cotton-tree—Cotton wood.....	Liard	Populus canadensis
34	American aspen—Tremble	Populus tremuloides	
35	White pine	Pin blanc	Pinus strobus
36	Banksian pine—Cypress.....	Pin gris—Cyprés	Pinus banksiana
37	Yellow pine.....	Pin jaune	Pinus mitis
38	Red or Norway pine.....	Pin résineux	Pinus resinosa
39	Button-wood	Platane de Virginie	Platanus occidentalis
40	Hemlock spruce.....	Pruche	Tsuga canadensis
41	Balsam-fir	Sapin blanc	Abies balsamifera
42	Double-balsam fir	Sapin rouge	Abies americana
43	White willow	Saule	Salix alba
44	Yellow willow	Saule jaune	Salix vitellina
45	Mountain ash	Cormier—Maskouébina	Sorbus americana
46	Arbor vitæ — White cedar	Cèdre blanc	Thuya occidentalis
47	Linden-Basswood—Bois blanc	Tilia americana	

XII

FAUNA.

With very few exceptions, the fauna of our Province embrace all the wild animals common to the temperate zone of North America. The following table, taken from the census of 1871, indicates the most valuable of the fur-bearing species and the quantities killed during that year :

Musk-rats.....	184,830	Moose, caribou and red deer.....	6,740
Beaver.....	36,148	Bears	1,181
Mink	19,072	Other skins.....	19,700
Marten.....	11,842	Seals.....	35,400
Foxes.....	5,086		
Otter.....	3,438		
			323,437

The census of 1881 does not give the number of skins, but sets down at \$163,310.00 the value of the furs collected during that year by our hunters. The *Tables of Trade and Navigation*, for the fiscal year ended on the 30th June, 1887, show that during that year the fur exports from the province of Quebec were as follows :

Raw furs.....	\$638,525
Dressed furs.....	10,127
Total.....	\$648,652

Our fauna include no dangerous wild beast ; the bear is the most formidable, and, as every one knows, that animal is not in general dangerous. Among the reptiles, we have only the harmless adder.

The list of our feathered game is a large one and includes the spruce partridge, the ruffed grouse, the ptarmigan or white partridge, a number of varieties of the wild duck, notably, the eider, along the north shore of the St. Lawrence, the teal, the Canada goose, the brant goose, the wild goose, the sea pigeon, the snipe, the woodcock, the black eagle, the bald eagle, the snowy owl, the bittern, the heron, and a host of other aquatic birds. Lake St. Peter and its environs are renowned as duck-shooting grounds. In the Lower St Lawrence, and especially on the north shore, game is so abundant that a good shot can load himself down in a few hours. In the woods, partridge abound and the quantities of these birds killed every winter or rather every autumn are immense.

XIII

FISH.

Our gulf of St Lawrence and our myriad lakes and rivers abound with fish of all kinds and of the best qualities. Our deep-sea fisheries, which are inexhaustible, supply the export trade with cod, herring, mackerel, halibut and shad, without taking into account immense quantities of fish of minor value, such as the caplin, for instance, which is used as a manure by our farmers on the sea-coast. In our rivers, we have the salmon, the trout, the touladi or grey trout, the pickerel, the sea-bass, the pike, the maskinongé, which attains as much as five feet in length, the eel, the perch, the white fish, the *winaniche*, a species of fresh-water salmon found in the upper waters of the Saguenay and in Lake St John, and many other kinds of lesser importance. Including the seal and porpoise, the annual value of the products of our deep-sea fisheries is about \$1,500,000, and of that of our inland fisheries about half a million. The rivers which flow into the Lower St Lawrence and those of the

Bay des Chaleurs, especially the Grand Cascapedia river, have not their equal as fly-fishing salmon rivers. They also swarm with splendid trout, running all the way up to five and six pounds in weight. This superb fish is also taken in immense quantities in our lakes, and the province of Quebec is deservedly regarded by American and English sportsmen as the finest fishing ground in the world.

XIV

CLIMATE.

The astronomical situation of the Province of Quebec shows at once that it is included in the temperate zone. The extremes of temperature range from 30° and even more below zero to 90° above; but the mean or ordinary variations are about the same as in the European countries situated under the same latitude, as indicated by the following table:

	Spring.	Summer.	Autumn.	Winter.	Year.
New Carlisle,.....	$48^{\circ} 2'$	$64^{\circ} 7'$	$43^{\circ} 2'$	$16^{\circ} 9'$	$40^{\circ} 70'$
Carleton,.....	$48^{\circ} 1'$	$62^{\circ} 7'$	$39^{\circ} 3'$	$15^{\circ} 5'$	$35^{\circ} 93'$
Father Point,.....	$42^{\circ} 7'$	$54^{\circ} 7'$	$38^{\circ} 3'$	$14^{\circ} 2'$	$37^{\circ} 42'$
Cape Rosier,.....	$29^{\circ} 7'$	$55^{\circ} 6'$	$39^{\circ} 3'$	$13^{\circ} 4'$	$34^{\circ} 50'$
Quebec	$49^{\circ} 1'$	$62^{\circ} 2'$	$27^{\circ} 5'$	$16^{\circ} 3'$	$38^{\circ} 78'$
Montreal.....	$54^{\circ} 9'$	$65^{\circ} 5'$	$30^{\circ} 2'$	$21^{\circ} 5'$	$43^{\circ} 02'$
London.....	$47^{\circ} 6'$	$61^{\circ} 0'$	$50^{\circ} 7'$	$39^{\circ} 2'$	$49^{\circ} 60'$
Liverpool	$46^{\circ} 2'$	$57^{\circ} 6'$	$49^{\circ} 1'$	$40^{\circ} 5'$	$48^{\circ} 30'$
Glasgow	$45^{\circ} 9'$	$60^{\circ} 1'$	$49^{\circ} 0'$	$39^{\circ} 6'$	$48^{\circ} 60'$
Edinburgh.....	$45^{\circ} 0'$	$57^{\circ} 1'$	$47^{\circ} 9'$	$38^{\circ} 4'$	$47^{\circ} 10'$
Paris	$50^{\circ} 6'$	$64^{\circ} 5'$	$52^{\circ} 2'$	$37^{\circ} 8'$	$51^{\circ} 30'$
Berlin.....	$47^{\circ} 4'$	$64^{\circ} 5'$	$49^{\circ} 2'$	$31^{\circ} 4'$	$48^{\circ} 10'$
St.Petersburg.....	$35^{\circ} 9'$	$60^{\circ} 6'$	$40^{\circ} 3'$	$18^{\circ} 1'$	$38^{\circ} 70'$

For the six places given in the province of Quebec, the mean spring temperature is $45^{\circ} 45'$ and $45^{\circ} 71'$ for the seven European cities. The summer mean is $60^{\circ} 9'$ in our province and $60^{\circ} 8'$ in the European cities, whence it follows that with a difference of $0^{\circ} 26$ less in spring and of $0^{\circ} 1'$ in summer, the mean temperature of these two seasons is the same as in the most populous and advanced parts of Europe. Our autumn temperature is 12° and that of winter $18^{\circ} 7'$ lower, with a difference of $9^{\circ} 44'$ over in favor of the European countries for the whole year.

It may be added that the period exempt from frost is much longer than is required to fully ripen all the cereals, as shown by the following figures taken from the report of the *Meteorological Bureau of Canada* for 1882:

	Last Frost in the spring.	First Frost in the autumn.	Interval without frost.
N. Carlisle.....	19 May, $28^{\circ} 1'$	2 Oct. $31^{\circ} 1'$	135 days
Carleton.....	14 " $24^{\circ} 0'$	29 Sept. $29^{\circ} 5'$	138 "
Father Point.....	19 " $30^{\circ} 0'$	25 Oct. $31^{\circ} 3'$	159 "
Quebec.....	15 " $32^{\circ} 0'$	14 Oct. $31^{\circ} 0'$	152 "
Montreal.....	1 " $22^{\circ} 9'$	20 Oct. $31^{\circ} 3'$	172 "

A somewhat erroneous idea prevails, as regards the severity of our winters,

Judging the temperature exclusively by the thermometrical indications, European writers, who have simply passed through the country, have arrived at very false conclusions. It is very true that during the winter the mercury falls lower in our province than in England, for instance; but, as with us the sky is always clear and the air pure and dry, the cold in our lowest temperatures is less penetrating and is less felt than in the damper climates of Europe and especially of England. This is the testimony of Englishmen, who have resided for a length of time in our country and studied the climate with the greatest care; among others, Anderson, Gray and Lambert.

Moreover, our winters possess the double advantage of supplying us with the best roads possible for lumbering in the woods, which constitutes the most important branch of our *extractive* industry and also of admirably preparing the land for sowing. The action of the frost pulverizes the soil, which thus becomes extremely friable and only the slightest harrowing is needed to convert the fall ploughings into regular garden mould. While giving us excellent roads for the hauling of heavy loads, the snow also protects the grass of the meadows against the frost, which under ordinary circumstances never affects it in any way.

Our summer temperature is splendid, especially, in the region of the Lower St. Lawrence and the Bay des Chaleurs. At that season, our magnificent watering-places are frequented by thousands of persons from all quarters of the United States and the western provinces of Canada, a great number of whom have built villas for themselves at these sea-side resorts.

In fine, it is established by vital statistics and by the life insurance companies that the province of Quebec enjoys one of the most healthful of climates and one as calculated to maintain the vital energy as it is to favor longevity. Endemic diseases are absolutely unknown and, in our rural districts, physicians would have a hard time of it earning a livelihood, if their positions were not somewhat bettered by other lucrative occupations.

XV

POPULATION.

In 1881, the population of our province, as established by the census, numbered 1,359,027 souls apportioned as follows between the different nationalities;

French.....	1,073,820	Scotch.....	54,923
Irish.....	123,749	Germans.....	8,943
English.....	81,515	Others.....	16,077

This gives the following proportions for the different nationalities:

Races.	Number.	Proportion.
French.....	1,073,820	79.02% of the total
Irish.....	123,749	9.11% "
English.....	81,515	6.01% "
Scotch.....	54,293	4.01% "
Other races.....	25,020	1.85% "

For the decade from 1871 to 1881, the different races showed the following increases :

French.....	144,003 or 15.49%
Irish.....	1 or 0.00%
English.....	11,693 or 16.74%
Scotch.....	5,465 or 11.05%
Other races.....	6,349 or 34.00%

And, supposing that during the present decade, the increase continues in the same proportions for each race, the following will be the result :

Races.	Number in 1881.	Increase.	Number in 1891.
French.....	1,073,820	166,334	1,240,154
Irish.....	123,749	0	123,749
English.....	81,515	4,899	86,414
Scotch.....	54,923	2,202	57,125
Others.....	25,020	462	25,482
	<hr/> 1,359,027	<hr/> 173,897	<hr/> 1,532,924

The proportions of each race will then be in 1891 : French 80.90%; Irish 8.08%; English 5.64%; Scotch, 3.72%; other races 1.66%.

When it is recalled that at the time of the cession of Canada to Great Britain, in 1763, the French population numbered at the most 70,000 souls, one cannot fail to be struck by the prodigious development of our race during these one hundred and twenty five years. The rate of increase exceeds 1,434 per cent. or more than 14 to 1. By taking this rate as a basis of calculation, we arrive at the conclusion that in fifty years the French population of the province well be about nine millions, if no extraordinary circumstances occur to retard the progression. This will depend on the impetus given to colonization, because we are above all a colonizing and an agricultural people. It was by devoting ourselves especially to agriculture that we have preserved in the past and that we will preserve in the future the frugal habits, the purity of manners, and the physical and moral strength which so pre-eminently distinguish our race. Let other races and the exceptions among our own practise industry and trade; but let us devote ourselves to opening up the country to agriculture and to the possession and cultivation of this cherished soil, which we have conquered for civilization.

But the figures relating to the province of Quebec do not give a correct idea of the expansion of the little French colony which established itself at the beginning the XVIIth century on the shores of Acadie and the banks of the St. Lawrence. The French Canadians have spread from our province into those to the west. They already form large groups in Ontario and there is a good number of Canadians and French half-breeds in Manitoba, in the North-West Territories and in British Columbia, without including those in the United States who number over a million, so that the descendants of the 75,000 French or thereabouts, who were in New France and Acadie in 1760, form today a population of over 2,500,000 souls.

In the three larger provinces of the Canadian Confederation, the French population show the following increase for the decade ended in 1881 :

	1872	1881	<i>Increase.</i>
Ontario.....	75,383	102,743	27,356
New Brunswick	44,907	56,625	11,718
Nova Scotia.....	32,833	41,219	8,386
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	153,123	200,587	47,464

By taking as the basis of calculation for the current decade, the percentage shown by the preceding decade, the following table is formed :

	<i>o/o</i>	<i>Increase.</i>	<i>Pop in 1891</i>
Ontario.....	36.29	37,285	140,028
New Brunswick.....	21.11	14,773	71,398
Nova Scotia.....	25.54	10,525	51,746
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	52,585		263,172

The different census previous to 1881 do not indicate the French population of Prince Edward Island ; but, allowing an increase of 25 per cent. for the present decade, we get the following figures :

French population in 1881,	10,751
“ “ in 1891,	13,438

The census taken in Manitoba in 1885 shows a decrease in the French population, which is only set down at 6,821 instead of 9,949 according to the census of 1881. This last census gives to the North-West Territories and British Columbia a French population of 3,812, which the increase during the current decade should raise to 5,000, in 1891.

Summing up all these data, it will be found that the French population of Canada, outside of our province, will probably be as follows in 1891 : Ontario, 140,028 ; New Brunswick, 71,398 ; Nova Scotia, 51,746 ; Prince Edward Island, 13,438 ; Manitoba, 6,821 ; North-West Territories and British Columbia, 5000, making in all 288,431.

As for the French Canadian population of the United States, the most conscientious research leads to the conclusion that it numbers 1,000,000. This is about the figure established by the Abbé Druon about fifteen years ago ; there has since been a large increase, so that the figure above given cannot be taxed with exaggeration.

The deduction from the foregoing is that the French Canadian population of Canada and the United States will probably reach the following figures in 1891 :

In Canada.

In the province of Quebec.....	1,240,154
In the other provinces	288,431
	<hr/>
In the United States.....	1,528,585
	1,000,000
	<hr/>
Total.....	2,528,585

If the French Canadian population of the United States progress in the proportion above indicated for the province of Quebec, in fifty years there will be in the two countries from fifteen to eighteen millions of French Canadians.

The census of 1881 gives the following enumeration of the different religious persuasions in our province : Catholics, 1,170,718; Anglicans, 68,797; Presbyterians, 50,287; Methodists, 39,221; Baptists, 8,843; other denominations, 21,151. From 1871 to 1881, the Catholic population showed an increase of 150,866 or 14.79 per cent. Supposing the progression continues in the same ratio, the present decade will give an increase of 173,149, which will bring the number of Catholics in 1891 to 1,343,867 or 87.97 per cent. of the total population, only leaving 2.33 per cent. for the Protestant population and other religious denominations.

As regards callings, the census of 1881 groups our population as follows :

Agricultural class.....	201,963 or 48.68%
Industrial ".....	81,643 or 19.67%
Commercial ".....	34,346 or 8.27%
Domestic ".....	24,279 or 5.85%
Unclassified ".....	72,635 or 17.50%

As will be seen, the agricultural class form nearly one half of the population.

The last census gives to the twenty-five cities and towns then in the province the following populations : Montreal, 175,182; Quebec, 62,446; Levis, 12,175; Three Rivers, 9,296; Sherbrooke, 7,222; Hull, 6,890; Sorel, 5,791; St. Hyacinthe, 5,321; St. John's, 4,314; Valleyfield, 3,906; Nicolet, 3,764; Joliette, 3,268; Lachine, 2,406; Longueuil, 2,335; Fraserville, 2,291; St. Jérôme 2,032; Chicoutimi, 1,935; Farnham, 1,880; Iberville, 1,847; Beauharnois, 1,499; Rimouski, 1,417; Terrebonne, 1,398; Louiseville 1,381; L'Assomption, 1,313; Berthier, 1,039; which make a total urban population of 322,348 or 23.71 per cent. and leave the rural population at 1,036,679 or 76.29 per cent.

The population of Montreal as above given takes in that of the small suburban parishes and villages, which, for commercial purposes, virtually form part of the city. For the same reason, the population of Bienville and Lauzon is added to that of Levis, of which those villages commercially form part.

From 1871 to 1881, the population of Montreal increased 31.3 per cent. If the increase continues in the same ratio, it will amount to 44,053 for the present decade, which will bring the figure of the population up to 184,000 at the next census in 1891. The population of the suburban villages was 34,455 in 1881; if it increases 25 per cent. during the current decade, it will reach 43,043 in 1891 which will make the population of Montreal, including these villages, nearly all of which are now annexed to the city, 227,843.

XVI

AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY.

Much the greater portion of the population are engaged in the tillage of the soil. At the time of the census of 1881, there were 4,147,894 acres under

cultivation, 2,207,422 acres in pasture, and 54, 858 acres in gardens and orchards, forming a total of 6,410,264 acres under tillage or about a twentieth of the total area of the lands comprised in the province of Quebec. The yield of cereals was as follows in 1881.

<i>Grains.</i>	<i>Bushels.</i>	<i>Value.</i>
Oats.....	19,990,205 at 40c	\$7,996,082.00
Peas and beans.....	4,170,456 " 80c	3,336,300.80
Buckwheat.....	2,041,670 " 60c	1,225,002.00
Wheat.....	2,019,004 " \$1	2,019,004.00
Barley.....	1,751,539 " 70c	1,226,077.30
Indian corn.....	888,169 " 60c	532,901.40
Rye.....	430,242 " 75c	322,681.50
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	31,291,285	\$16,658,109.00

The meadows yielded in 1881 :

Tons of hay.....	1,612,104 at \$6.00	\$9,672,624.00
Bushels of hay seed.....	119,306 at \$1.50	178,959.00
	<hr/>	<hr/>
		\$9,851,583.00

The crop of roots in 1881 was as follows :

Potatoes.....	14,873,287 at 25c	\$3,718,321.75
Turnips.....	1,572,476 at 20c	314,495.10
Other roots.....	2,050,904 at 30c	615,271.20
	<hr/>	<hr/>
		\$4,648,088.15

The flax crop yielded for the same year :

Flax and hemp, lbs.....	865,340 at .05c	\$43,267.00
Flax seed, bushels.....	65,995 " \$1.00	65,995.00
	<hr/>	<hr/>
		\$109,262.00

For the produce of the gardens and orchards in 1881, we find :

Apples, bushels.....	777,557 at \$1.00	\$777,557.00
Other fruits "	155,543 " 1.00	155,543.00
Tobacco lbs.....	2,365,581 " 0.10	235,658.10
Hops "	218,542 " 0.05	10,927.10
	<hr/>	<hr/>
		\$1,179,685.20

The animals slaughtered or sold and the products of animals are indicated by the following figures for the year in question :

Horned cattle.....	160,207 at \$30.00	4,806,210.00
Sheep.....	436,336 " 2.50	1,090,840.00
Swine.....	333,159 " 10.00	3,331,590.00
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	929,702	\$9,228,640.00
Wool, lbs.....	2,730,446 at 20c	546,109.20
Honey "	559,024 at 10c	5,902.40
Butter "	30,630,397 at 15c	4,594,559.55
Creamery butter, lbs		341,478.00
Cheese, lbs.....	559,278 at 10c	55,927.80
Factory cheese, lbs.....		5,464,454.00
	<hr/>	<hr/>
		\$20,487,070.95

The foregoing figures show the importance of our dairy industry, whose products amounted in 1881 to \$10,456,419.35, that is to say, \$4,936,037.55 for butter, and \$5,520,381.80 for cheese. The capital invested in creameries was \$97,027 and the number of persons employed 151. Cheese factories employed 2003 hands and represented an investment of \$1,021,435. Our cheese is of superior quality and much sought after in the English market, where it commands the highest prices.

The products of domestic industry for 1881 amounted as follows:

Cloth and flannel, yards.....	2,958,180 at 50c	\$1,479,090.00
Linen, yards.....	1,130,301 at 20c	226,060.20
		<hr/>
	4,088,481	1,706,050.20
Maple sugar, lbs.....	15,687,835 at 10c	1,568,783.50
		<hr/>
		\$3,274,833.70

The value of the products of agricultural industry is summed up in the following figures for 1881 :

Products of cereals		\$16,658,109.00
" " hay crop.....		9,851,583.00
" " root crop		4,648,088.15
" " flax crop		109,262.00
" " gardens and orchards.....		1,179,685.20
" " animals and their products.....		20,487,070.95
" " domestic industry		3,274,833.70
		<hr/>
Total value.....		\$56,208,632.00

To day, the annual value of the agricultural products must amount to at least sixty millions.

It is somewhat difficult to indicate with absolute accuracy the value of the agricultural property, —real and moveable—as the last census furnishes hardly any information on this head ; but by proceeding approximately some idea of its importance can be obtained.

According to the municipal reports for 1886, the value of the real estate in the municipalities was then estimated at \$181,559,993.00.

With regard to the farm stock, the census of 1881 supplies the following figures, to which as in the case of the agricultural products, we add an estimate of the values according to current prices:

Horses.....	225,006 at \$75.00	\$16,875,450.00
Colts.....	48,846 " 30.00	1,465,330.00
Working oxen.....	49,237 " 20.00	984,740.00
Milch cows.....	490,977 " 20.00	9,819,540.00
Other horned cattle.....	409,119 " 10.00	4,091,190.00
Sheep.....	889,833 " 2.00	1,779,666.00
Swine.....	329,199 " 5.00	1,645,995.00
	<hr/>	
	2,442,217	\$36,661,961.00

Agricultural implements, which are not mentioned in the census of 1881, were enumerated as follows in that of 1871 :

Light waggons.....	240,018	à \$30.00	\$7,200,540.00
Carts.....	404,966	" 15.00	6,074,490.00
Ploughs, harrows and cultivators..	206,663	" 10.00	2,066,630.00
Reapers and mowers.....	5,149	" 100.00	5,114,900.00
Horse rakes.....	10,401	" 20.00	208,020.00
Threshers.....	15,476	" 150.00	2,121,400.09
Fanners.....	37,262	" 10.00	372,620.00
			<hr/>
			\$23,158,600.00

At least, \$7,000,000 may be added to this total for the increase since 1871 and for the value of the other farm plant not embraced in the above enumeration, which will carry the total amount to \$30,158,600.

The value of the property employed by the agricultural industry as a means of production is therefore about as follows :

Real estate.....	\$181,559,993.00
Stock.....	36,661,961.00
Waggons and agricultural implements.	30,158,600.00
Total.....	<hr/> \$248,380,554.00

XVII

FOREST INDUSTRY.

After agriculture, this is the most important extractive industry of our province. The census of 1881 supplies us with the following information on the subject :

Number of saw mills.....	1,729
" of mill hands.....	12,461
Annual wages.....	\$ 2,287,291
" value of raw material.....	\$ 5,101,884
" " " products.....	\$10,542,649
Shingle mills.....	377
Number of persons employed.....	868
Annual wages.....	\$ 33,393
" value of raw material.....	\$ 60,665
" " " products.....	\$ 128,718

The annual value of sawn lumber and shingles forms a total of \$10,671,357 and the wages of the mill hands amounted to \$5,135,277. To the value of the sawn lumber, as above given, must be added that of the lumber delivered to local consumption and the export trade in the form of round timber, building or square timber, railway ties, wood for ship building, carriage-making, cooperage and several other industries, which bring up the value of the forest products to more than \$20,000,000 a year. The wages and number of men employed in the forest to fell and prepare the timber are as large as those of the labor employed in the mills, which carries to about 25,000 the number of persons engaged in the forest industry and to upwards of \$4,500,000 the amount of their annual wages.

From 1867 to 1887 inclusively, the State forests supplied the trade with the following quantities of the different woods :

Saw Logs.

Pine.....	38,373,604	
Spruce and hardwood.....	17,410,683	<hr/>
		55,784,287
Pine boards, feet	684,559	
Spruce and hardwood boards, feet..	19,149,333	

Square Timber.

Red and white pine, cubic feet.....	64,874,150
Birch, elm and maple " "	4,734,227

Round Timber.

Small tamarac, white spruce, pine, boom timber, etc., linear feet.....	10,798,237
Futtocks, knees, pickets, railway ties, etc., number	3,008,388
Fire-wood, lath-wood, hemlock bark, etc., cords	159,415

These figures give an idea of the wealth of our forests and the importance of our forest industry ; nevertheless, they do not embrace the woods cut from forests owned by private persons, which also contribute largely to the local consumption and export trade.

XVIII

MINING INDUSTRY.

We unfortunately have no accurate statistics with regard to this industry. All the information we possess on the subject is to be found in the *Tables of Trade and Navigation*, which do not indicate exactly whence the exported minerals are derived.

Asbestos.—In 1886, there were eight asbestos mines in operation : at Thetford : those of the Boston Asbestos and Packing Company ; of King Brothers ; of Irvine, Johnson & Co ; and of Ross Ward & Co. ; at Black Lake, those of Mr Frechette ; of the Scottish Canadian Company: and of the Anglo-Canadian Company ; and at Belmina, in Wolfestown, that of Mr John Bell, of London.

Our asbestos mines were discovered in 1878 and from that period to the 30th June 1886, they turned out for export 10,024½ tons of this mineral, valued at \$624,489. The cost of extraction is from \$20 to \$25 per ton, representing nearly exclusively the price of the labor employed, which goes to show that the working of these mines has in eight years benefitted the workmen employed to the extent of about \$220,000 in wages, leaving more than \$400,000 for the proprietors. The output of the mines for 1886 was 3,458 tons valued at \$206,251.

Copper.—The only mines in operation are the Albert and Crown mines, at Capelton, near Sherbrooke, and those of Harvey Hill, in the county of Megantic. The output of the Capelton mines in 1886 amounted to 43,906 tons of ore, containing 3,336,810 lbs of copper. From 1868 to 1887, the value of the ores of copper exported from the province was \$3,554,815 or an annual average of \$177,740.

The *Excelsior Copper Company*, with a capital of £450,000 sterling, has, within a few weeks past, begun to work the Harvey Hill mines, where it actually employs fifty men. It owns 4100 acres of copper-bearing lands and an extensive plant. The veins, according to sir William Logan's description of them, have a gangue of quartz occasionally mixed with calc-spar, pearl-spar and chlorite, and contain rich ores of copper; some of them yielding the variegated and vitreous species and others copper pyrites. These are, however, considered secondary in importance to the interstratified beds in which the sulphurates of copper are disseminated in the slate rock. These beds contain the yellow and variegated ores, the latter generally predominating; the veins are well defined, are from 2 to 7 feet in width and as much as 10 feet thick, and carry a rich ore, which has assayed as much as 70 per cent, and upwards of metallic copper. Mr Pierce, agent of the Halifax Copper Company, has in a report pronounced these mines to be the richest in Canada, and this report has been confirmed by Dr Bourke, geologist and analyst, who considers them the richest copper mines in America.

The company calculates upon an output of 100 tons of ore per day, with the help of the large additions which it is making to the plant. Its operations are greatly facilitated by the fact that these mines are only distant seven miles from Broughton station on the line of the Quebec Central Railway. The London board of directors is composed of Col Malleson, Sir H. Elphinstone, Sir James Marshall, Mr S. P. Appleyard, vice-president of the Halifax Banking Company, Hon. H. Mercier, Premier of Quebec, and Hon. W. W. Lynch, ex-Commissioner of Crown Lands. The directors in Canada are Hon. Messrs Mercier and Lynch and Mr J. N. Greenfields, barrister, of Montreal. There is every reason to hope that this company will give a powerful impulse to our copper mines.

Phosphate of Lime.—Upwards of twenty-five mines of phosphate are in operation in the townships of Hull, Wakefield, Templeton, Buckingham and Portland, in the county of Ottawa, affording employment to about 800 men. Since the discovery of these mines about 1875, down to the year 1887 inclusive, there has been extracted from them about 137,000 tons of the mineral and the value of the phosphate exported from the province of Quebec from 1877 to 1887 has been \$3,094,673. In 1887, 22,070 tons were exported, valued at \$390,226. Our phosphates are of superior quality, carrying generally 80 to 85 per cent, and, in keeping with the increase and improvement of the means of transport, this industry will develop almost without limit, as our phosphate lands are immense and the demand for their products is still more so.

Gold.—Our auriferous deposits of Beauce and Ditton are being profitably worked by a number of private persons; but it is impossible to procure reliable information respecting the results of their operations. It is admitted by all the competent authorities that gold mining would constitute a paying industry if it were prosecuted with the assistance of the necessary capital and experience.

Gold mining in Beauce has, within a few months, taken a fresh and vigorous start. Several English and American capitalists are about to engage

in this industry. Recently, Mr Lockwood, who owns 80,000 acres of auriferous lands, sold 8,000 acres of them to Messrs McArthur Bros & Co for \$10,000. Shortly afterwards, the Messrs McArthur sold a portion only of these 8,000 acres for \$50,000. It is claimed that Mill stream, where diggings have been begun, is richer than the Gilbert river, where about \$2,000,000 worth of gold were taken out of twenty acres of ground. The establishment of good quartz-crushing mills will also contribute largely to the development of operations : at least, this is the opinion of Mr Ells, of the Geological Survey of Canada, who fully explored the auriferous lands of Beauce and Compton in 1884 and 1885.

Iron.—The Hull iron mine (magnetic oxyde) is worked by a company, which forwards the raw ore to the United States. The iron derived from the deposits of bog ore or limonite in the region of the St-Maurice is smelted in the Radnor forges and exported in the form of pig iron.

Marble.—The Dudswell quarry is operated by a company, which has already done considerable work.

Slate.—The Rockland and Danville quarries supply the trade with large quantities of slate. A railway, four miles long, has been constructed to carry the output of the Rockland quarry to Richmond, on the Grand Trunk. In 1886, the production was 5,345 tons, worth \$54,675 at the quarry.

Several other mining operations of some importance are carried on in the province, but, in regard to them, it is impossible to procure information worthy of mention.

It may be added that what we chiefly need to give to our mining industry all the immense development of which it is susceptible are capital and practical knowledge—the raw material being abundant. Worked under proper conditions, our mines might be easily made to yield five to six millions of dollars a year.

XIX

FISHERIES.

The following is the information respecting this industry furnished by the official reports for the year 1887, commencing with the coast and inland fisheries of the province.

<i>Kinds of Fish.</i>		<i>Quantity.</i>		<i>Value.</i>
Salmon, salt.....	brls	770½	\$	12,325.00
" fresh.....	lbs	529,763		103,250.00
" canned.....	lbs	8,448		1,267.20
Cod, salt...:	quintals	164,100		656,400.00
Haddock.....	"	1,237		4,948.00
Halibut.....	lbs	81,347		8,134.70
Herring, salt.....	brls	31,607		142,231.00
" smoked.....	boxes	9,762		2,440.50
Shad.....	lbs	743,612		44,016.72
Eels.....	"	1,348,348		80,900.88
" salt.....	brls	152		1,520.00

<i>Kinds of Fish.</i>		<i>Quantity.</i>	<i>Value.</i>
Mackerel, salt.....	"	628	7,536.00
Sardines.....	"	960	2,880.00
Sturgeon.....	lbs	475,400	28,884.00
".....	brls	323	1,615.30
Trout.....	lbs	530,700	53,076.00
" salt.....	brls	153	1,530.90
Winoniche.....	lbs	55,000	3,300.00
Bar and white fish.....	doz	5,001	6,251.25
White fish.....	lbs	75,730	6,058.40
Maskinongé.....	"	90,780	5,986.00
Bass.....	"	134,749	8,068.74
Pickerel.....	"	473,583	28,408.98
Pike.....	"	366,650	18,332.50
Tomcods.....	"	500,000	15,000.00
Cod tongues and sounds.....	brls	953	9,530.00
Smelts	lbs	4,000	120.00
Lobsters, canned.....	"	857,098	102,851.76
Small fish and mixed fish.....	brls	20,037	86,995.50
Sal skins.....	number	22,799	22,799.00
Porpoise skins.....	"	656	2,640.00
Fish for bait and manure.....	brls	134,769	116,081.50
Fish oil	gals	268,109	107,243.60
Guano.....	Tons	60	3,000.00
Local consumption.....	brls	19,485	77,940.00
Total in 1887.....			\$1,773,567.43

The value of the products of the fisheries of the Gulf of St Lawrence amounted to \$1,302,457.36, which leaves \$471,110.07 for the fisheries of other parts of the province. The number of men employed in the different fishing operations is 12,105, that is to say, 8,554 in the Gulf fisheries and 3,561 in the river and lake fisheries. The capital invested in this industry is \$781,156, of which \$684,192 is in the Gulf region and \$96,964 in the rest of the province.

We may add that both the deep sea and river fisheries of the province of Québec, are the most prolific and the richest, probably, in the whole world. Capital alone is needed to increase their productiveness, which might then be counted by millions.

A new and vigorous impetus will be given this year to this industry by an association under the name of Le Bouthilier Bros. Company, which has just been formed by Mr W. Fauvel, of Paspebiac, with a capital of \$50,009, of which 60 per cent. has been paid up. This firm, of which Hon. H. Mercier, Premier of Quebec, is a member, is composed, among others of Messrs William Le Bouthilier, Fauvel, of Paspebiac, Alphonse Charlebois, Joseph Whitehead, John H. Botterel, William Shaw, Richard Turner and Joseph Louis, of Quebec and has purchased all the properties of the house of Le Bouthilier & Brothers, worth \$100,000 at the lowest figure. Mr Fauvel has gone to Europe to complete arrangements and will return early this winter in order to prepare in time for next summer's fishing.

XX

MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY.

Regarding this industry, the census of 1881 supplies the following information :

Number of persons employed.....	85,763
Annual wages of said persons.....	\$ 18,333,162
Capital invested.....	52,216,992
Value of raw materials.....	62,563,967
Value of articles produced.....	104,662,258

The leather industry, which is by far the most important, employed, in the work of tanning, shoe-making and saddlery, 22,558 persons and, with an invested capital of \$10,842,985, produced \$28,268,803, as follows for the whole province :

	<i>Persons employed.</i>	<i>Capital invested.</i>	<i>Products</i>
Shoemaking.....	18,949	\$6,491,042	\$17,895,903
Tanning.....	2,968	4,028,394	9,686,248
Saddlery	641	323,549	686,652
<hr/>		<hr/>	<hr/>
	22,558	\$ 10,842,985	\$ 28,268,803

The city of Quebec is the centre where the leather industry—tanning and shoemaking—is carried on on a larger scale than any where else in Canada, and, perhaps, in the whole of North America. In 1881, it employed 480 men earning \$130,114 a year, consumed \$1,741,715 worth of raw materials, and produced \$ 2,101,774. According to the most competent authorities, the same industry employs to-day 1300 persons, earning \$375,000 a year, consumes annually \$120,000 worth of hemlock bark, and \$1,150,000 worth of raw hides, and furnishes more than \$2,500,000 worth of leathers. The principal tanning establishments are those of Messrs Olivier and Gaspard Kochette, Elie Turgeon, Désiré Guay, Felix Gourdeau and Pion & Co. In 1881, the manufacture of boots and shoes employed 2,897 persons, earning wages to the extent of \$467,811, consumed \$1,588,973 worth of raw materials, and turned out \$2,432,006 worth of boots and shoes. It is estimated that to-day it gives employment to 4,000 hands, earning \$1,200,000, and produces upwards of \$4,000,000 worth of boots and shoes. The leading manufacturers are Mr Octave Migner, Hon. G. Bresse, Messrs. Botterell, Ritchie, Woodley, Marsh, Dion & Co, Isaie Boivin and the "Quebec Shoe Company". The French Canadians have been wonderfully successful in this industry, as well as in tanning.

Then, for the whole province and in the order of their importance, come the following industries :

	<i>Number of persons.</i>	<i>Capital invested.</i>	<i>Value of products</i>
Milling.....	1,791	\$ 3,697,060	\$ 8,861,752
Iron manufactures.....	7,165	6,467,705	8,764,678
Sugar refining.....	493	1,600,000	6,800,000
Furs and hats.....	1,583	1,403,532	2,456,711

	<i>Number of persons.</i>	<i>Capital invested.</i>	<i>Value of products.</i>
<i>Woven Fabrics :</i>			
Cotton	1,500	1,350,000	1,608,434
Wool.....	1,226	1,567,365	1,531,899
Silk.....	134	86,400	123,900
India rubber goods,	524	850,000	769,500
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	14,416	\$ 17,022,662	\$ 30,916,874

It is estimated that, since 1881, there has been an increase of one-third in our manufacturing industry, which gives an idea of its present importance. For this kind of work, the French Canadians are endowed with remarkable aptitude and skill.

In proportion to population, the city of St. Hyacinthe is probably the most remarkable of all the cities of the province in point of manufactures. The following are the principal factories of that city :

The St. Hyacinthe Manufacturing Company, woolens.....

The Granite Mills, knitted goods ;

Louis Côté & Frère, boots and shoes ;

Seguin, Lalime & Co "

J. Aird & Co "

Duclos & Payan, tannery ;

Moseley & Co, "

Eusebe Brodeur, church organs ;

Casavant Frères " "

O. Chalifoux & Fils, agricultural implements ;

Bedard & Fils, " "

F. X. Bertrand, machinery ;

J. Fréchette, "

L. P. Morin, wood work ;

Paquette & Godbout, "

The Compagnie Manufacturière, grist mills ;

The Compagnie de Peinture, paints.

These different industries employ about 1100 hands.

XXI

TRADE.

By its geographical position, as well as by the splendid seaports furnished it by the river St. Lawrence, which enable sea-going vessels to ascend as far as Montreal, the province of Quebec commands the trade of the whole of Canada and even of the finest portion of the Western States of the American republic. The St. Lawrence is the shortest, most direct and least expensive channel for the import and export trade of the immense territory lying to the west of our province and extending as far as the Mississippi valley, north of the latitude of Chicago. Montreal, the centre towards which converge the great lines of the Canadian railway system—the Grand Trunk and Canadian Pacific—is also the connecting point between ocean navigation and that of

Lakes Ontario, Erie, Huron, Superior and Michigan—Montreal, we say, is at the head of the entire Canadian trade and also serves as the distributing point of a great part of the products of the American Western States. Consequently, nearly one half of the import and export trade of the whole of Canada is done through the province of Quebec.

For the year 1887, the total imports of Canada represented \$112,892,236 and the exports \$89,515,811, making a total commercial movement of \$202,408,047. The figures given by the *Tables of Trade and Navigation* show \$50,153,673 of imports and \$40,364,720, of exports for the province of Quebec, making a total trade of \$90,518,393 or 44.72 per cent. of the trade of the whole Dominion. From 1869 to 1887, inclusively, the movement of trade in the ports of our province was as follows :

	<i>Imports.</i>	<i>Exports.</i>	<i>Tonnage : Entered inwards and outwards.</i>
1869.....	\$ 30,940,341	\$ 28,223,268	2,246,891
1870.....	32,883,916	37,807,468	2,778,069
1871.....	43,094,412	39,021,705	2,582,369
1872.....	49,376,175	41,823,470	2,903,527
1873.....	53,715,459	44,408,033	2,859,563
1874.....	51,577,072	46,393,845	2,728,566
1875.....	51,961,282	39,745,729	2,545,495
1876.....	35,035,091	37,876,815	2,404,851
1877.....	36,752,990	37,782,284	2,766,779
1878.....	32,036,858	37,392,287	2,677,304
1879.....	30,924,842	29,750,512	2,327,801
1880.....	43,544,132	41,447,209	2,804,191
1881.....	51,071,013	48,965,087	3,225,274
1882.....	53,105,257	38,972,121	2,730,368
1883.....	55,909,871	42,642,986	2,998,976
1884.....	49,122,472	42,029,878	3,207,832
1885.....	46,733,038	39,604,451	2,853,354
1886.....	45,001,694	38,171,339	2,995,972
1887.....	50,153,673	40,364,720	2,953,094

For this period of nineteen years, the aggregate of the principal exports of the province was :

Products of the farm.....	\$402,025,376
" " forest.....	211,380,958
" " fisheries.....	14,737,096
" " mine.....	8,448,422
	<hr/>
	\$636,591,852

The exports of the year 1887 were made up as follows :

Products of the farm.....	\$28,135,675	or 69.75o ₇₀
" " forest.....	8,480,764	" 22.00o ₇₀
" " mine.....	925,676	" 2.29o ₇₀
" " fisheries.....	621,707	" 1.66o ₇₀
" " manufactures and other articles...	1,727,410	" 4.30o ₇₀

The total exports of products of the farm for the period embraced between 1869 and 1887, and for the year 1887 separately, were made up as follows :

Grains :

	1869-87	1887
Wheat.....	\$106,467,296	\$6,481,748
Rye.....	1,622,485	52,071
Barley.....	4,174,986	29,701
Oats	7,488,140	374,093
Peas.....	27,046,102	1,722,527
Indian corn.....	27,090,892	1,646,614
Beans.....	158,660	1,525
Flax seed.....	148,539	10,296
Other grains.....	549,596	9,835
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$174,746,696	\$10,328,410

Flour :

Wheat flour.....	\$27,588,654	\$1,474,637
Oatmeal.....	2,822,314	144,593
Other flour.....	109,153	11,022
Bran	323,363	35,966
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$30,843,484	\$1,666,218
Hay.....	\$8,962,276	\$659,719
Straw.....	96,783	17,687
Vegetables	265,084	4,179
Potatoes.....	973,680	3,212
Tobacco.....	276,612	27,388
Hops.....	580,304	543
Miscellaneous.....	364,033	9,458
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$11,518,772	\$722,186

Animals :

Horses.....	11,182,658	846,924
Horned cattle.....	36,278,532	5,343,472
Sheep.....	7,268,078	745,735
Swine.....	138,105	112
Fowl.....	787,210	29,580
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$55,624,583	\$6,965,829

Products of Animals :

Hides.....	\$2,006,303	\$225,691
Bones	243,659	12,597
Eggs.....	2,478,210	187,991
Lard.....	2,159,701	12,973
Tallow.....	422,065	1,268
Beef and mutton.....	1,168,247	2,650
Salt pork.....	3,371,779	36,221
Bacon.....	6,958,342	188,062
Tongues, etc.....	802,080	26,538
Butter.....	37,133,586	816,352
Cheese.....	65,853,252	5,992,928
Other products.....	760,570	19,047
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$123,357,794	\$7,522,358

The Tables of Trade and Navigation also classify among, the products of the farm, tobacco, fruits and several other articles of minor importance, which are not included in the above figures. For the fiscal year, 1887, these different articles formed a total of \$930,674, which increases to \$28,135,675 the total value of the exports of products of the farm.

A considerable portion of the agricultural products, exported from our province, comes from Ontario, Manitoba, the North-West Territories and the United States. The St. Lawrence offers so many advantages, especially for the exportation of live stock, that the Chicago exporters are forced to adopt it

What most taxes the animals during the long journey between Chicago and Liverpool is the sea voyage, when they are constantly tormented by the rolling and pitching; apart from the fact that the sea is relatively calm in the Gulf whence there only remain about 2,000 miles of ocean travel, Quebec is 318 miles nearer to Liverpool than is New-York. The Quebec route shortens by so much the total journey and saves from 1200 to 1500 miles of rough sea voyage, which renders the transportation more comfortable for the cattle and less expensive for the shippers, seeing that the animals have to be fed during a shorter time. If the port of Quebec could offer to large steamers the wharfage and other accommodation required for cattle transhipments, it is probable that the cattle trade *via* the St. Lawrence would greatly increase.

XXII

MARITIME TRADE.

For the year 1887, the shipping trade of the ports of the province shows a total of 3,813,096 tons, that is to say, 1,975,709 of arrivals, and 1,837,387 of clearances. The arrivals were made up as follows : ocean navigation, 1,234,462; navigation between the province and the United States, 312,572; coasting trade, 427,665. The clearances show 1,159,759 tons of ocean navigation ; 245,309 of navigation between the province and United States, and 432,327 of coasting trade. The number of vessels was as follows :

	<i>Arrivals.</i>	<i>Clearances.</i>
Ocean navigation.....	1,010	1,065
Navigation between the province and the United States.....	1,748	1,460
Coasting trade.....	4,246	4,567
Totals.....	<hr/> 7,004	<hr/> 6,992

The number of men composing the crews is given as follows in the official reports :

	<i>Arrivals.</i>	<i>Clearances.</i>
Ocean navigation.....	19,621	29,496
Navigation between the province and the United States.....	10,018	7,679
Coasting trade.....	14,584	14,292
Totals.....	<hr/> 44,223	<hr/> 51,467

There are three great ocean steamship companies in the province : the Allan Company, the Dominion Company, and the Beaver Line Company. The steamers of these companies run between Quebec and Montreal and the ports of Great Britain, in summer ; in winter, their termini on this side of the Atlantic are Halifax and, in the United States, Portland, Boston and Baltimore.

The official reports do not give the tonnage of the vessels registered in the ports of the province ; but it is well known that it exceeds 200,000 tons ; at \$30 a ton, the value of the maritime property belonging to the shippers of the Province would thus amount to \$6,000,000.

XXIII

MONETARY INSTITUTIONS.

The paid-up capital and reserves of the banks of the province of Quebec amounted, on the 30th September last, to \$46,154,207.30, distributed as follows between the different institutions :

	<i>Paid up Capital.</i>	<i>Reserve Funds.</i>
Bank of Montreal.....	\$12,000,000.00	\$ 6,000,000.00
" British North America.....	4,866,666.00	1,174,565.00
" du Peuple.....	1,200,000.00	300,000.00
" Jacques-Cartier.....	500,000.00	140,000.00
" Ville Marie.....	478,430.00	20,000.00
" Hochelaga.....	710,100.00	100,000.00
Molson's Bank.....	2,000,000.00	1,000,000.00
Merchants' "	5,799,200.00	1,920,000.00
Nationale "	1,200,000.00	1,000,000.00
Quebec "	2,500,000.00	425,000.00
Union "	1,200,000.00	1,000,000.00
Saint-Jean "	226,870.00	10,000.00
Saint-Hyacinthe Bank.....	264,670.00	
Eastern Townships Bank.....	1,468,716.30	450,000.00
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$34,414,642.30	\$11,789,565.00

The paid-up capital of the banks of our province forms 57.15 per cent of the paid-up capital of all the banks of Canada, which amounted to \$60,210,288 on the 30th September last. At the same date, the discounts were \$72,756,670.02 ; the assets of our banks represented \$138,860,919.64 and their liabilities \$91,249,846.01, which indicates a prosperous state of affairs. The deposits formed a total of \$60,626,789.10—Government deposits not included—of which \$28,034,527.61 were payable on demand and \$32,592,261.49 after notice.

Apart from these discount banks, we have two banks of deposit : the Montreal City and District Savings Bank and La Caisse d'Economie Notre Dame at Quebec, rich and powerful institutions, whose condition is most prosperous. On the 31st October last, their paid-up capital was \$850,000.00. Their liabilities represented \$10,696,495.35, and their assets \$11,983,061.76, or an excess of \$1,286,566.41 of assets over liabilities. The ordinary deposits, or

those made by private persons, formed a sum of \$10,237,015.58. The loans, guaranteed by Government securities, bank shares, and other industrial stock, amounted to \$4,534,893.12, and the cash on hand to \$2,219,562.47. The investments comprised \$2,801,436.03 of municipal debentures or bonds, and \$1,501,597.00 of Federal Government bonds.

In addition there are large deposits in the Post Office savings banks, which unfortunately withdraw considerable sums from circulation and trade.

We have also a number of loan and mortgage institutions, notably, the Credit Foncier Franco-Canadien, which nearly all do an excellent business. Lastly, we have also several life, fire and accident insurance companies, so that, as far as monetary institutions are concerned, our province is ahead of nearly all the countries with the same population and especially of all the other provinces of Canada.

XXIV

NAVIGATION AND RAILWAYS.

The St. Lawrence, one of the finest rivers of the world, takes its rise in a small lake in Minnesota, which discharges its waters into Lake Superior by the river St. Louis. It is designated by different names : St. Mary's, between Lake Superior and Lake Huron ; St. Clair or Detroit, between Lake Huron and Lake Erie ; Niagara, between Lake Erie and Lake Ontario ; and lastly, St. Lawrence, from the latter lake to Point des Monts, which is regarded as the line of separation between the river and the gulf. The total length of the St. Lawrence is 2,180 miles. Its ordinary width varies between one and four miles in its upper course, increasing below Quebec to over one hundred miles at its mouth. It is navigable for ocean vessels to Montreal, which is 833 miles from the straits of Belle Isle ; and from Montreal to the head of Lake Superior, a distance of 1398 miles, it can be navigated by vessels of 700 tons with the aid of the canals built to overcome the rapids. The smallest locks of these canals are 270 feet long, 45 wide, with 9 feet of water. By the straits of Makinac, Chicago, 1,145 miles distant from Montreal, can also be reached by navigation by the St. Lawrence route.

Apart from the St. Lawrence, we have 72 miles of ocean navigation on the Saguenay and more than 100 in the Bay des Chaleurs and the river Ristigouche. The river navigation, for steamboats, comprises fifty miles on the St. Lawrence above Montreal, about 200 miles on the Ottawa and its lakes, 60 miles on the Richelieu, 75 miles on the St. Maurice, and about a hundred miles on the other rivers, without counting the lines on Lakes St. John and Memphremagog.

The length of the railways in operation in the province of Quebec was as follows on the 1st December, 1888 :

1. Grand Trunk, including 12.87 miles for the Beauharnois Junction railway.....	495.87 miles
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2. Canadian Pacific, including the lines of the South Eastern company and the Short Line (the length of this company's system in all Canada is 4,597.93 miles).....	833.93	"
3. Intercolonial railway.....	315.00	"
4. Temiscouata railway.....	68.72	"
5. Quebec Central railway.....	154.15	"
6. Massawippi railway	36.75	"
7. Bay des Chaleurs railway.....	50.00	"
8. Lake St. John railway.....	191.28	"
9. Quebec, Montmorency and Charlevoix railway.....	21.50	"
10. St. Lawrence, Lower Laurentides and Saguenay railway.....	21.50	"
11. Drummond County railway.....	12.48	"
12. Vermont Central railway, system	77.10	"
13. Canada Atlantic railway.....	53.00	"
14. Great Eastern railway, including the Montreal and Sorel road.....	50.79	"
15. Rockland Quarries railway, near Richmond.....	4.12	"
16. L'Assomption railway.....	3.50	"
17. Great Northern railway.....	8.00	"
18. Carillon and Grenville railway.....	12.75	"
19. Montreal and Lake Maskinongé railway.....	13.00	"
20. Pontiac and Pacific Junction railway	71.00	"
21. Long Sault and Lake Temiscamingue railway.....	6.00	"
	2,500.44	"

This gives a mile of railway for every 625 inhabitants and every 754 square miles of territory.

Estimating the cost of these railways at an average of \$20,000 per mile, including the rolling stock and plant, we get a sum of \$50,000,000 or about 250,000,000 francs,

The number of miles of railway actually building is as follows :

1. Quebec and Lake St. John railway.....	68.00	miles
2. Bay des Chaleurs railway.....	130.00	"
3. Quebec, Montmorency and Charlevoix railway.....	68.50	"
4. Hereford branch.....	34.50	'
5. St. Lawrence, Lower Laurentides and Saguenay railway.....	38.50	"
6. Quebec Central railway.....	39.14	"
7. Ottawa and Gatineau Valley railway.....	62.00	"
8. Long Sault and Lake Temiscamingue railway.....	11.00	"
9. Pontiac and Pacific Junction railway.....	16.50	"
10. Great Northern railway.....	13.00	"
11. Great Eastern railway.....	24.89	"
12. Drummond County railway	26.52	"
13. Beauharnois Junction railway.....	0.88	"
Total.....	533.43	

Since Confederation, the Government of the province of Quebec has expended, in constructing and aiding the construction of railways, a sum of \$19,66,834.90. Before Confederation, the Government of United Canada had paid towards the construction of the Grand Trunk \$15,142.633, of which the province contributed at least the half or \$7,571,316.50. To the 30th June, 1887 the building of the Canadian Pacific Railway had cost the Federal Governmen

\$71,641,697. As our province furnishes about a third of the Federal Government's revenues, it has contributed \$23,880,560 towards the realization of that enterprise. In the same proportion, it has paid \$1,360,435 of the \$4,082,307 expended by the Federal Government in grants to railways constructed in our province to the 30th June, 1887. At that date, the Intercolonial had cost, \$44,995,982, leaving \$14,998,660 as the third furnished by the province of Quebec.

Grouping all these figures together, we arrive at the conclusion that, within thirty years, the province of Quebec, through its Governments, has laid out about \$67,177,807 on railway construction. Few countries have shown more liberality in favor of such undertakings.

XXV

VICTORIA AND LACHINE BRIDGES.

In connection with our railways, the Victoria and Lachine bridges, two monuments of architecture and civil engineering which far exceed all other structures of the same nature in the world, call for special mention.

The Victoria bridge, built on the tubular system, has twenty three arches, each 242 feet long and one in the centre of 330 feet, with an abutment 1,200 feet long on the Montreal side and one of 800 feet on the south side at St. Lambert, which gives a length of 6,600 feet between the abutments, very nearly a mile and a quarter or about two kilometres, and of 9,184 feet, the abutments included, making a total length of a mile and three quarters, about 2.72 kilometres. The tube forming the bridge is 16 feet wide and 19 feet high at the two extremities, but increasing to 22 feet in the centre. This tube is divided into sections, two of which are of 516 feet to counteract the expansion of the iron and rest at each extremity on rollers, which facilitate the expansion and contraction. The plates are consolidated by T angles and bars of iron. The tube is supported in 24 pillars of cut stone (Chazy formation limestone) which measure 92 x 22½ feet at the base and 33 x 16 feet at the top. The weight of the blocks of stone composing the masonry ranges from 6 to 17 tons, or from 12,000 to 34,000 lbs per block, and are joined together by iron cramps and bolts. The height of the bridge over the surface of the water is 60 feet. Under the bridge, the current runs at the rate of seven miles an hour and its greatest depth is 22 feet. The painted superficies of the tubes is 30 square acres, and, as they received four coats, the painting represents a total superficies of 120 acres.

The only structure of the same nature, which at all approaches the Victoria bridge, is the Britannia bridge, over the Menai Straits, in Wales. The following table will show the differences between the two :

	<i>Britannia.</i>	<i>Victoria.</i>
Length between the abutments.....	1,513 - feet	6,600 feet
Total length, including the abutments.....	1,841½ "	9,184 "
Number of pillars.....	2	24
Greatest distance between pillars.....	460 "	330 "
Height of centre pillar over water.....	102 "	60 "
Cubic feet of masonry in the whole structure....	1,300,000	3,000,000
Weight of iron in tubes.....	4,825½ tons	8,000 tons
Number of rivets in the tubes.....	1,000,000	2,000,000

The Victoria bridge cost \$6,500,000 or about 32,000,000 francs. It was commenced on the 30th June, 1854, and opened to traffic on the 17th December, 1859. It connects the railways of the north shore of the St. Lawrence with those of its south shore and belongs to the Grand Trunk Railway Company. It spans the river at the foot of the Lachine rapids or Sault St. Louis.

At the head of these rapids, eight miles higher up, is the Lachine bridge, constructed in 1886 and 1887 by the Canadian Pacific Railway Company. This bridge is built on the articulated or truss system. Its length is 3,550 feet and comprises three arches of 80 feet each, 8 arches of 242 feet, 2 of 408 feet, 2 of 270 feet, and one moveable or swing arch of 240 feet. This moveable swing is over the Lachine Canal and is opened and shut by steam machinery of an altogether new kind. The elevation of the bridge is 60 feet over the water, which at this point flows at the rate of 15 miles an hour. In its style, it is the greatest bridge in existence. Its cost is estimated at \$3,500,000 or about 17,000,000 francs

XXVI

FINANCES.

The revenues of the Provincial Government are derived from the Federal subsidy, the receipts from our immense public domain, including forests, mines and lands properly so called, licences and certain other direct taxes. As regards the imposition of taxes, the powers of our Local Legislature are unlimited; it can increase the revenue at pleasure, ten, fifteen or twenty times, if it think proper; in this respect, it has no other limits than the will of the people.

From 1887 to 1888, the revenues and expenses of the Local Government have been as follows:

Year.	Revenues.	Expenses.
1868.....	\$ 1,535,836.66	\$ 1,183,238.44
1869.....	1,676,152.08	1,331,011.49
1870.....	1,663,236.36	1,559,192.98
1871.....	1,651,287.09	1,759,495.25
1872.....	1,746,459.54	1,725,685.23
1873.....	1,999,942.57	1,731,750.78
1874.....	2,041,174.71	1,937,772.04
1875.....	6,032,234.45	3,439,256.24
1876.....	2,340,151.63	3,862,517.38
1877.....	6,618,444.98	5,926,848.75
1878.....	2,826,324.19	5,388,862.93
1879.....	7,591,076.07	7,205,162.00
1880.....	3,546,637.44	3,945,620.01
1881.....	7,504,497.85	7,206,725.69
1882.....	5,263,973.84	5,420,577.77
1883.....	4,655,759.96	3,909,597.50
1884.....	5,893,593.08	4,690,214.54
1885.....	3,604,111.01	4,666,343.23
1886.....	3,895,037.53	4,125,815.60
1887.....	3,682,150.67	4,635,102.50
1888.....	4,634,076.11	5,991,977.70
	<hr/> \$83,401,157.82	<hr/> \$81,547,768.05

The revenues include \$21,367,999.73 derived from six consolidated or permanent loans representing a total of \$22,354,353.34.

The expenses on capital account comprise \$18,387,501.80 for the construction of railways to the 30th June, 1888, \$1,291,613.44 for the construction of the Parliament and Departmental Buildings, \$638,816.63 for the Quebec Court House, and \$138,349.02 for the Jacques Cartier Normal School, Montreal, making in all \$2,068,779.09 for these three splendid edifices and \$20,456,280.89, as the total of the expenses on capital account, including the amounts paid for railway construction.

Against our consolidated debt, already reduced to the extent of \$783,925.11 by our sinking fund service, we have the balance of the price of sale of our provincial railway, \$7,000,000, and the indemnity granted by the Federal Government for the construction of that railway, \$2,394,000 which already makes \$10,777,925.11. We have in addition the balance due us on the final settlement of the old accounts with Ontario and the Federal Government, and valuable city properties, which can be sold with the greatest ease, so that the balance of our debt, deduction made of the realizable assets, does not exceed \$10,000,000.

Since Confederation, our principal ordinary expenses have been : legislation, \$3,846,190.77 ; civil government, \$3,395,682.25 ; administration of justice, \$7,645,006.07 ; public instruction, \$6,830,845.68 ; arts and manufactures, \$153,374.40 ; agriculture, \$1,455,809.21 ; colonization, \$2,051,126.74 ; immigration, \$428,524 ; public works and buildings imputable to ordinary revenue, \$2,101,444.52 ; charities, \$5,946,389.53, of which \$3,816,940.36 for insane asylums ; surveys of public lands, \$610,214 ; cadastration, \$748,925.51 ; public debt, \$10,121,590.14, or in all \$49,151,063.48, which leaves a dozen millions for the different other ordinary expenses. The principal ordinary revenues for the same twenty-one years between 1867 and 1888 form the following totals : Federal subsidy, \$21,348,322 ; Crown Lands revenue, \$12,116,194 ; licenses \$4,314,541 ; administration of justice, \$4,004,799.91 ; registration stamps, \$282,099 ; interest on the price of sale of our provincial railway, \$2,121,182.25 ; or upwards of \$44,000,000 from these six sources of revenue only.

Within a couple of years, the receipts from lands and licenses have increased over \$175,000, and this increase goes on regularly. The proceeds of the taxes on commercial corporations, which yield more than \$120,000 annually, swells our revenue by so much, and, with an administration knowing how to prudently take advantage of the elasticity of our revenue and to keep the ordinary expenses strictly within the bounds imposed by the dictates of a wise economy, it is possible to rapidly promote the progress of the province.

XXVII

EDUCATION.

The control and general supervision of matters relating to public instruction are exercised by a Council composed : *lo, ex officio*, of all the Catholic

bishops of the province ; 20, of as many laymen belonging to that religious denomination appointed by the Government ; 30, of a certain number of Protestants also named by the Government.

This Council of Public Instruction meets very seldom and then only to discuss questions of general interest. The business is practically done by two committees : one called the Catholic committee, composed of the bishops and the Catholic lay members of the Council ; the other called the Protestant committee and formed of the Protestant named by the Government and a certain number of associate members chosen by the committee. Each committee sits separately and annually distributes the moneys voted by the Legislature for public instruction.

Our whole school organization is directed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction, who is *ex officio* member and president of the Council, with a deliberative voice in the two committees. He has as executive officers thirty-five inspectors, whose duty it is to visit all the schools subsidized by the Government, to see to the observance of the school laws and to report to the Superintendent upon the state of the schools and of education in their respective districts.

There are Catholic inspectors for the Catholic schools and Protestant inspectors for the Protestant schools. These inspectors are named by the Government on the recommendation of one or other of the committees, according to the religious denomination to which the schools to be visited belong.

School Commissioners.

In each municipality, school affairs are managed by commissioners chosen by the ratepayers. It is the duty of these commissioners to fix and levy the school contributions, to apportion them between the different schools, to engage and pay teachers, to see to the construction and maintenance of school houses and the supervision of the teaching — in fine, to attend to everything relating to school matters in their respective municipalities. On several points, there may be an appeal from their decisions to the Superintendent and Council of Public Instruction.

Dissentient Trustees.

In municipalities of mixed creeds, the majority in religion control school affairs ; but, if the minority are dissatisfied with the administration of the commissioners, they may name trustees to take exclusive charge of the administration of their school affairs.

In all that concerns the schools of the minority, these trustees have the same powers and duties as the commissioners have with respect to the schools of the majority, with the exception that the latter collect all the school taxes, subject to the condition of handing over to the trustees the share thereof appertaining to the minority.

Protection of Minorities.

The most absolute respect for all religious beliefs as to education and the greatest harmony between the different elements of the population are assured by this organization, which renders all conflict between them on the subject impossible. Moreover, history is there to prove that never, as regards education or any other matters affecting questions of race and religion, have the French Canadians attempted the slightest encroachment on the rights of the other races or the other religious denominations.

School Taxes.

The imposts levied for the purposes of primary instruction consist of a small tax on real estate, producing a sum equal to the Government grant, and a monthly contribution ranging from five to fifty cents, twenty-five centimes to two francs, for each child of age to attend school, that is to say, from seven to fourteen years old. All the ratepayers are obliged to pay the school taxes, even when they do not send their children to school, and, in this sense, it may be said that, in our province, primary education is compulsory.

Normal Schools.

To form teachers for the primary and secondary schools, we have three special teaching schools designated as normal schools, and maintained exclusively at the cost of the State. One of these schools is Protestant; the other two are Catholic. These institutions are under the immediate control of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, and the Catholic ones are directed by an ecclesiastic recommended by the Council of Public Instruction and appointed by the Government.

Nature of Education.

Our system of public instruction embraces teaching in all its grades, from university training down to that of the humble primary school. At the head of this system, we have three great universities : Laval University, a French and Catholic institution, and two English and Protestant institutions, McGill University and Bishop's College.

Laval University.

Laval University was founded in 1852 by the Quebec Seminary and organized by the Revd Louis Jacques Casault. Its curriculum comprises all the departments of science and art, including even a course of veterinary medicine. Its museums of natural history and geology and its cabinet of physics are most complete. Its library contains upwards of 60,000 choice volumes, including several *incunabula*, a great many historical papers and the *Bollandist* collection. Its gallery of paintings, the most valuable in America, includes a goodly

number of works of the great masters of the seventeenth century and other later painters of repute. Its professors number eighty : 19 in theology, 17 in law, 25 in medicine, and 19 in the arts. In 1887, the number of its students was 221 in the theology, 181 in medicine, 104 in law and 60 in arts, or a total of 575.

McGill University.

McGill University, at Montreal, founded in 1827 by a wealthy merchant whose name it bears, counts 49 professors : 8 in the faculty of law, 16 in medicine, 13 in arts and 12 in sciences. During the term of 1886-87 the number of students was 27 in law, 236 in medicine, 231 in arts and 57 in the sciences. Several of this University's courses are followed by the pupils of McGill College and of the Normal School bearing the same name, which, to a certain extent, form part of the institution. This university has the advantage of having, among its professors and directors, Sir William Dawson, a learned and distinguished geologist, whose reputation has extended even to Europe.

Bishop's College.

Bishop's College, of Lennoxville, is an Anglican university, founded in 1843, by Bishop Mountain, of Quebec. Its curriculum covers law, medicine, arts, sciences and theology. The number of its professors and students was as follows in 1887 : in law, 12 professors and 6 students ; in medicine, 17 professors, and 30 students ; in theology, 2 professors, and 4 students ; in arts 5 professors, and 20 students, or a total of 36 professors and 60 students.

Classical Colleges.

There are seventeen Catholic colleges in the province. In fifteen of these establishments, the teaching is performed by 300 professors,—293 ecclesiastics and 7 laymen—and the number of pupils amounted to 3,562, according to the statistics of 1887. These figures do not include the number of the professors and pupils of our older classical colleges, like the Seminaries of Quebec and of St. Sulpice, at Montreal, which are independent institutions and make no report to the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

The Protestants have nine colleges, affiliated with their universities. In 1887, there were in these colleges 38 professors and 257 pupils.

Besides these colleges, the Protestants have nine high schools or lyceums for boys and girls, which, last year, aggregated 76 male and female teachers and 1,481 pupils, about 600 of whom were girls.

Convents.

Catholic higher education for girls is imparted by a large number of convents, which are maintained on a footing that does honor to the province.

Model Schools.

In addition to the institutions of secondary instruction, comprising academies and model schools, we have three schools of agricultur, two schools of applied science, thirteen schools of arts and design and five establishments for the training of the deaf, dumb and blind.

Educational Statistics.

The Report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction for the year 1886-87 sums up as follows the educational statistics for that year :

	Catholic.	Protestant.	Total.
School municipalities.....	835	311	1,146
Elementary schools.....	3,586	998	4,584
Superior “.....	565	78	643
Applied science schools.....	1	1	2
Arts and design “.....	13
Deaf, dumb and blind	4	1	5
Total.....	4,156	1,078	5,247
Professors, ecclesiastical or religious.....	868	8	876
“ lay.....	296	162	458
“ of normal schools.....	28	8	36
“ of Laval university and of the Protestant universities and colleges.....	80	123	203
“ in schools for the deaf, dumb and blind..	86	3	89
“ in arts and design schools.....	35
Total.....	1,358	304	1,697
Female teachers, religious.....	1,723	...	1,723
“ “ lay.....	3,734	1,112	4,846
Total of the teaching body.....	6,815	1,416	8,266
Pupils of elementary schools.....	143,848	30,451	174,309
“ superior “.....	74,795	6,155	80,950
“ Laval university and the Protestant uni- versities and their affiliated colleges.....	575	772	1,347
“ normal schools.....	185	96	281
“ special schools.....	1,720
Total of pupils	219,403	37,484	258,607

Religion of the Pupils.

Of the 255,259 pupils, who attended the primary and superior schools under the control of the commissioners and trustees, 221,611 were Catholics or 86.80 per cent, and 33,648 Protestants or 13.20, per cent of the whole, which gives a proportion of 6.5 Catholic pupils to 1 Protestant.

Resources of the Schools.

The receipts of the elementary, model and academic schools, under the control of commissioners and trustees, were as follow :

Annual assessments.....	\$759,949
Special "	74,330
Monthly contributions.....	189,994
Government grant :	
From the common school fund.	\$154,608
" " fund for schools in poor municipalities.....	5,076 159,684
Total receipts.....	\$1,183,957

The Government grant for public instruction comprises the above sums, together with \$78,000 for higher education.

The sums annually paid by the Government for public instruction from 1867 to 1888, inclusively, amount to \$6,822,727.54, or an annual average of \$324,891.77. During these twenty-one years, \$153,374.70 were also paid for schools of art and design, and about \$70,000 for agricultural instruction, bringing to upwards of \$7,000,000, the total expended by the Government during that period, for the purposes of education.

Role of the Clergy.

In speaking of education as regards our province, it is hardly possible to pass over in silence the patriotic and eminently national role played by our classical colleges. In these colleges were educated Bedard, Blanchet, Parant, Papineau, Cherrier, DeLorimier and nearly all the patriots, who distinguished themselves in the memorable events of 1837. Again, at the present day all our most prominent public men are graduates of these classical colleges, founded and maintained almost exclusively by our clergy. It is also among the pupils of these colleges that the liberal professions and even a good part of the commercial body are recruited. In fine, if in our province classical education is more widespread than in all the other provinces of the Confederation, if literature and the fine arts are more advanced among the French Canadians than among the other races, this superiority is due to the Catholic clergy and their classical colleges. Our gratitude should be all the greater because the clergy supply this education almost gratuitously and their liberality places it within the reach of all, even of the poorest. In this respect, there is not another country in the world whose institutions can bear comparison with those of the province of Quebec.

These institutions constitute—so to speak—the most characteristic feature of our social organization. Hatched by the breath of faith and charity, the infant colony of New France was soon endowed with the benevolent institu-

tion which Catholicism had long multiplied in the mother country ; and, even before we had a system of fixed and regular government, we had hospitals and asylums to take care of the sick, the poor and the infirm. These admirable charities have since multiplied and form, so to say, the special characteristic of the French Canadian nationality. Our convents, our monasteries of men and women, our hospitals and asylums offer consolation to all the ills and relief to all the hardships and infirmities, and it may be asserted with truthfulness that the benevolent institutions of the France of Louis XIV have been better preserved here than in the mother country.

Our fellow-countrymen of English origin have also numerous establishments of the same kind, and it may be stated without fear of contradiction that, in the matter of charities, our province is far ahead of all other countries with the same population. Here, the State liberally subsidizes these institutions ; from 1867 to 1888, the Government of Quebec has expended \$894,364.00 in grants to hospitals and refuges ; \$1,235,085.17 to reformatories and industrial schools for children and \$3,816,940.36 to lunatic asylums, making in all \$5,946,389.53 or about 15 per cent of the ordinary revenue of the Province. For the year 1886-87, \$243,000 were paid to lunatic asylums, \$84,452.00 to reformatories, \$39,316.00 to hospitals and refuges and \$13,200 to deaf and dumb schools, or \$379,968.00 in all.

XXIX

RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATION.

There is no country in the world where freedom of worship is as great as in our province. After some years of struggle, England granted us the full exercise of the rights resulting from the articles of the capitulation of Montreal and the treaty of Paris. In our country the Catholic clergy are absolutely independent in all that relates to religious worship, and are controlled on this head only by the authorities of Rome ; the civil power interferes in matters of worship only for the purpose of lending the support and authority of the law, when necessary or useful. Our parochial organization is still governed by the French laws of the seventeenth century, and the changes which those laws have undergone have only tended to still further strengthen the religious authorities.

The same liberty exists in favor of the Protestants and all other religions ; even Judaism is practised without let or hindrance from the civil authorities. Thanks to this organization the best *entente*, as well as the greatest harmony, reign among the adepts of the different beliefs and the leaders of the different religious denominations. Moreover, the French and Catholic majority make it a point to scrupulously respect the religious beliefs of the minority and have never thought of encroaching in the least on the rights of Protestants, from a religious or any other standpoint.

The Catholic church numbers in our province two archbishoprics, those of Quebec and Montreal, and a large part of that of Ottawa, the seat of which

is in Ontario ; six dioceses, those of Three Rivers, St. Hyacinthe, Rimouski, Sherbrooke, Chicoutimi and Nicolet ; and two apostolic prefectures, Pontiac and the north coast of the St. Lawrence. At the head of the hierarchy is His Eminence Cardinal Taschereau, Archbishop of Quebec, who is also the metropolitan of the ecclesiastical province.

There are three Protestant bishops, one of Quebec, who is the metropolitan of the Church of England, and two at Montreal.

We have no State appropriation for religion. From the Catholics, the parish priests receive tithes, and, when these are insufficient, a capitation fixed by the bishop ; in cities, the curés have fees and a certain fixed sum paid out of the products of the sale of pews and other revenues of this nature. The clergy generally employ their surplus revenues in maintaining charitable institutions, colleges and convents, as well as in the education of young people of talent, and thus furnish us with higher classical education at low price, which seems inexplicable to strangers.

XXX

POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS.

The constitution guarantees to us, in its fullest extent, ministerial responsibility, the liberty of the press, and the liberty of the subject.

Here, as in England, the will of the majority of the people regularly expressed through its representatives in the popular branch of the Legislature is the supreme law. The ministers, who compose the Cabinet or Executive Council, can only remain in office and govern, except in so far and so long as they enjoy the confidence of the majority which makes and unmakes Cabinets at pleasure. The role of the Crown or the Sovereign, represented by the Lieutenant-Governor, is absolutely passive, and is exercised regardless of all personal considerations. The Lieutenant Governor acts officially only on the advice of his ministers ; in case he differs in opinion from them, he may change them, but he must choose their successors among the men possessing the confidence of the majority of the Legislative Assembly.

Liberty of the Press.

We enjoy in a supreme degree the liberty of the press, which has no other control but public opinion and the laws on libel. Our newspapers may criticize, censure with impunity the conduct of the governor, ministers, and public men, without exposing themselves to any other penalties than condemnation for libel or defamation of character, by the ordinary law courts, at the suit of the parties interested.

Habeas Corpus.

Individual liberty is guaranteed to us by the *habeas corpus*, which exists here as in England and without any restriction, except such as may be imposed

by Parliament. Any person arrested or illegally detained in prison has a right to apply to a judge of the Superior Court, and to obtain his liberation in case of illegal imprisonment. The same privilege exists in favor of all citizens of the province and of aliens detained in a prison, lunatic asylum or other institution of detention, contrary to the law, or whose individual liberty is restrained otherwise than by regular process of law.

As may be seen, the liberty of the subject with us is surrounded by all the protection and all the guarantees desirable.

Legislature.

Our Local Legislature is composed of the Lieutenant-Governor, having, for advisers, a certain number of ministers, who form a Cabinet or Executive Council, of the Legislative Council or upper chamber, composed of twenty-four councillors named by the Government for life, and of a Legislative Assembly composed of sixty-five members, elected by the people of the sixty-five electoral divisions of the province.

The powers of this Legislature are very important. They include the exclusive control of the public lands; civil legislation, that is to say, upon all relating to the rights of property and the relations of citizens to each other; education; the organization of the law-courts; the incorporation or legal creation of commercial, industrial and other companies, including even railway and navigation companies, whose operations do not extend beyond the limits of the province; municipal affairs and legislation concerning matters of religious worship; public works within the province; agriculture; the administration of justice, civil and criminal; the levying of taxes for provincial purposes and the absolute control of the public moneys, which cannot be disposed of except with the exclusive assent of the Legislative Assembly or the representatives of the people, which constitutes ministerial responsibility in the fullest sense of the term.

XXXI

MUNICIPAL ORGANIZATION.

The municipal organization is, so to say, the application of representative government in each parish and township erected municipally.

Each regularly organized civil parish outside of the townships and each township forms, *ipso facto*, a municipal corporation the moment it has a population of 300 inhabitants. The affairs of each municipality are managed by a council composed of seven members elected by the ratepayers, and presided over by one of the councillors chosen by the others and styled the mayor. To be a municipal elector, it is sufficient to possess as proprietor an immovable of the real value of \$50 or, as tenant, a property of the annual value of \$20. The powers of the municipal councillors embrace the making and maintenance of roads, public works of a purely local nature, the levying and collection of

municipal and school taxes, police matters and the enforcement of certain laws concerning agriculture. In 1886, there were in the province 758 local-municipalities, whose revenues amounted to \$1,125,231 and expenses to \$959,284.

The county municipality covers all the territory of the county and is composed of the mayors of all the local municipalities within that territory. The chairman of each county council is called the warden. This council regulates all questions interesting more than one municipality, decrees the erection of certain territory into municipalities, and decides in appeal certain contestations arising out of affairs of the local municipalities.

The cities and towns are governed by special councils elected by the rate-payers. Their powers are very extended and regulated by special charters or by the general law relating to cities and towns in default of special laws.

XXXII

JUDICIAL ORGANIZATION.

Our judicial machinery comprises courts of commissioners, and magistrates or justices of the peace, courts of district magistrates, police magistrates, recorders in cities, the Circuit Court, Superior Court, Court of Review, Court of Appeal, the Supreme Court of Canada, and, in England, the Privy Council, which is the highest tribunal.

Commissioners' Courts.

The commissioners' court is composed of persons chosen directly from the people and mostly belonging to the agricultural class, appointed from time to time by the Lieutenant Governor in Council, in nearly all the municipalities. Its jurisdiction is limited almost wholly to the recovery of civil debts for amounts not exceeding \$25, and its decisions are mostly based on equity, without much regard for the text of the law or jurisprudence.

Justices of the Peace.

The justices of the peace are also named by the Lieutenant-Governor, but mayors of municipalities are justices of the peace *ex officio* during their terms of office. The functions of these magistrates are chiefly confined to police matters and their jurisdiction does not exceed the limits fixed by the general laws. In criminal matters, they have primary jurisdiction, in the sense that they issue the warrants for the arrest of persons charged with crime, conduct the preliminary examinations of the witnesses, discharge the accused when the proof against them, or, in the contrary case, commit them to prison to await their trials, which are conducted by the police magistrate or the criminal court properly so called and legally designated as the "Court of Queen's Bench, Crown side."

Magistrates.

The police magistrates have a little more extended jurisdiction than the others and sit as judges of the sessions of the peace.

The district magistrates have in criminal matters the same jurisdiction as the police magistrates in the large cities and, in addition, civil jurisdiction in certain affairs, the importance of which is according to the district.

Recorders.

The recorders in the cities are charged with punishment of infractions of the police laws and municipal regulations, and it is before them that suits for the recovery of municipal taxes are taken and heard. These courts have a good deal of analogy with the tribunals of "*police correctionnelle*" in France.

Circuit Court.

The Circuit Court, presided over by one of the judges of the Superior Court, is held in each judicial district and sometimes in the counties, at stated periods. Its jurisdiction is exclusively civil and does not go beyond cases in which the amount in dispute is less than \$200 in some places and less than \$100 in the great centres. It has an appellate jurisdiction in certain cases and its judgments are non appealable in actions where the amount in dispute does not exceed \$100.

The Superior Court sits at the *chef-lieu* of each of the twenty judicial districts into which the province is divided. Its jurisdiction is exclusively civil, but without limit as to amount. The judges of this court also hold the criminal assizes or terms of the Court of Queen's Bench, in the rural districts, that is to say, in all the judicial districts except those of Quebec and Montreal. An appeal lies from the judgments of the Superior Court to the Court of Review and to the Queen's Bench. The bench of the Superior Court is by law composed of thirty judges distributed through the different districts, and it has for its chief justice, at Quebec, Sir Andrew Stuart, a most distinguished man, and, at Montreal, judge Johnson, a jurist of eminence.

Court of Review.

The Court of Review sits at Quebec and Montreal and is composed of three judges of the Superior Court called from any district by the chief justice to review finally the judgments of that court, when these are confirmed. But when these judgments are not confirmed, the decision of the Court of Review is susceptible of appeal to the Court of Queen's Bench.

Court of Queen's Bench.

The Court of Queen's Bench, the highest appeal court of the province, is both a court of appeals for the whole province and a criminal court. It is

composed of six judges, of whom Sir Antoine Aimé Dorion, one of the most notable men of America, is chief justice. One of its judges presides at the criminal assizes which are held twice a year at Quebec and Montréal ; but five of them sit together when the court sits in appeal.

It well be at once seen that judicial decentralization exists in the highest degree in our province and that the law courts are accessible and within easy reach of all. We have courts of justice in all the parishes, in all the towns, in all the counties, in all the districts and in all the cities. We have also the jury system in all its fullness, even in civil matters. The terms of the criminal courts are fixed by law, so that the accused are sure to have their trials at stated periods, which is an unquestionable guarantee for the liberty of the subject. In order to shorten imprisonments pending the criminal assizes, our law permits, in certain cases, the summary trial of the accused, if he prefers it, before the police or district magistrates.

The judges of the Superior Court and the Queen's Bench are appointed and paid by the Federal Government ; but the organization and constitution of the law courts, their creation, and the civil procedure followed in them belong to the Provincial Government ; this provides a perfect guarantee for the autonomy of the province, as well as for its French institutions.

XXXIII

CIVIL AND CRIMINAL LAWS.

Our civil law is the French civil law, as it stood before the French revolution, with the addition of some provisions of the Code Napoleon, which have been inserted into ours. With us, the right to will is unlimited ; each citizen is free to dispose of his property by testament as he pleases. Community of property between husbands and wives still exists in our province, where there have been no stipulations to the contrary, together with the continuation of the community after the decease of one of the consorts, which has been abolished in nearly all the countries of Europe.

Our criminal law is the common law of England, as modified from time to time by the laws of the Federal Parliament, which has exclusive powers of legislation as regards criminal matters. These powers are to-day greater than ever, as the right of appeal to England in criminal cases has been abolished. As already stated, the *habeas corpus* forms part of our criminal law.

XXXIV

HYPOTHECARY LAWS.

Our laws concerning the registration of real rights is as perfect as it is possible to imagine. With our system of cadastration and registration, a few instants are enough to ascertain all the charges and encumbrances upon any immoveable. The designation of the property can give rise to no mistake, as

it is all described at length in the books of reference and on the plans of the cadastral deposited in each registry office and represented by a number in its order ; it is sufficient to mention this cadastral number in a deed of mortgage and the name of the place in which the property is situated. The capitalist, who lends money on mortgage with a knowledge of all the facts, is perfectly safe, and all the more so because once the cadastral is definitely in force in a locality, the titles of the proprietors appearing therein as such become unassailable and the mortgages which have not been renewed become null and void or only rank after others of later date. In this respect, the province of Quebec offers incontestable guarantees to the investment of foreign capital.

Decentralization.

A French writer has said that “in a democratic society, to limit liberty, we must divide its action by multiplying the centres of local independence, and by reuniting them by hierarchical intermingling.” This is precisely the great characteristic of the institutions of our province. We have judicial decentralization, municipal decentralization, scholastic decentralization, agricultural decentralization, and decentralization in the temporal affairs of the churches, in a word, in all that more closely affects the interests of the people. We know of no country where the people govern themselves more directly and more completely by themselves than in our province.

Here, not a single cent of the people's money can be expended by the political government, the municipal government, the government of the church in temporal matters, by our agricultural societies, or by our school commissioners, without that expenditure being sanctioned by the representatives of the people. Our municipal councils, our boards of school commissioners, our meetings of churchwardens and freeholders, of members of agricultural societies, form so many little parliaments, wherein the representatives of the people discuss and guard the interests of their constituents, and take part in public affairs, which are carried on and decided only with the assent of the parties interested. Thanks to this decentralization, the special interests of race and religion enjoy complete protection ; the citizens of different origins and religious beliefs have no cause of dissension, or conflict, and live in the most perfect harmony ; they esteem each other as the inhabitants of a country should where Christian sentiment is respected and the religious idea deeply rooted ; in fine as in countries where true civilization is the most advanced. The liberties, which we have conquered with the blood of some of our members, enable us to retain under the British flag the customs, language, and civil laws of the France of Louis-the-Great, to openly proclaim ourselves French, without hindrance or molestation, to take a prominent part in the politics and destinies of the Canadian Confederation, and our fellow citizens of English origin benefit too much by these liberties to think badly of us for having introduced them into the country—we, the descendants of the autocratic France of Richelieu and Louis XIV.

THE FUTURE.

Incomplete as this sketch may be, it shows clearly the brilliant future in store for our province and the French race, a race that constitutes more than three quarters of the population. The extent and richness of our territory ; its natural resources, as inexhaustible as they are varied ; its incomparable geographical position, which enables it to command the trade of the richest portions of Canada and the Western States of the American Republic ; its great waterway of the St. Lawrence, the most important channel of inland and oceanic and navigation which exists in the world ; its magnificent system of railways, which is rapidly extending ; its universities, colleges, convents, and its thousands of public schools, which furnish the people with education and instruction in all branches and degrees ; its numerous benevolent institutions, for the relief of distress and infirmity ; its political institutions which guarantee freedom to all citizens, and the most absolute protection to all races and religious interests ; the perfect harmony which reigns among the different groups of its population,—in fine the result of all these benefits and advantages will be that, in the near future, our province will offer the spectacle of a great people, rich, happy and prosperous, and, as all these things will be achieved in a large measure by that French-Canadian population, whom Providence seems to have selected as the special instrument of its inscrutable designs, the future writer of the history of this beautiful country may, with reason, take for epigraph for his book :

Gesta Dei per Francos.

HONORE MERCIER

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